FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 031 14 February 1986

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SOVIET EXPERTS HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

LD131957 Moscow TASS in English 1942 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 13 TASS -- A group of Soviet experts -- Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, senior official of the apparatus of the CPSU Central Committee Nikolay Shishlin and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Vitaliy Zhurkin, staying here, today met with leaders of the Soviet and American delegations to the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space armaments. Meetings were also held with the American delegation and the delegations of the socialist countries participating in the work of the conference on disarmament.

The main attention was paid to the large-scale plan of peace and disarmament, which was put forward in the statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet experts held at the Palace of Nations a press conference which was attended by representatives of mass media organs accredited in Geneva. The character of the questions raised by foreign journalists testifies to profound interest in the Soviet initiatives, which are being actively discussed by the political circles and broad public of different countries.

Good Chance of Accord

AU131648 Paris AFP in English 1631 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Geneva, Feb 13 (AFP) -- Two top Soviet officials today said there was a good chance of reaching a U.S.-Soviet agreement this year on medium-range missiles in Europe.

Progress in the ongoing negotiations here could lead to "very positive results" in a planned summit later this year between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the officials said.

The officials, Yevgeniy Primakov, director of the Moscow Institute of World Economic Studies and International Relations, and Vitaliy Zhurkin, deputy director of the Institute for the United States and Canada, were addressing a press conference here.

They said the proposal put forward by Mr. Gorbachev on January 15 was not linked to Mr. Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, a space-based anti-missile research program. But the Soviet proposal, they said, remained tied to a future agreement by Britain and France not to boost their strategic capabilities and to a U.S. pledge not to supply such arms to third countries.

Both conditions were brushed off yesterday as "unacceptable" by a group of U.S. senators visiting Geneva.

Mr. Primakov and Mr. Zhurkin were here to meet U.S. and Soviet negotiators at the disarmament talks, as well as the delegations attending the U.N. conference on disarmament.

The Soviet Union, they said, was ready to work out an identical agreement on missiles in Asia "on condition the United States does not increase its strategic nuclear capabilities on the Asian borders of the Soviet Union."

CHERVOV DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT IN INTERVIEW

DW131001 Berlin ARD Television Network in German 2200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Interview with Soviet Colonel General Nikolay F. Chervov by Lothar Loewe, SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG correspondent Josef Joffe, and STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG correspondent Walther Stuetzle on the "Fernseh Pressekonferenz" program in Berlin; questions in German, answers in Russian with superimposed German translation -- recorded]

[Text] [Loewe] Good evening ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the SFB [Sender Freies Berlin] television press conference. In our studio we have as guest Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, member of the Soviet general staff, where he is a department chief and specialist on weapons and disarmament problems. As guest we have Josef Joffe, foreign policy editor of SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, and Walther Stuetzle of STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, a military expert and former chief of the defense ministry's planning staff.

General Chervov, the Gorbachev proposal envisages that the intermediate-range missiles, that is the Pershing and cruise missiles, should be eliminated in Western Europe simultaneously with the 250 Soviet SS-20 missiles in the European part of Russia. How will that be done? Do you want to move all the SS-20 missiles into a big square; will they be scrapped there, so to speak; and is it to happen in the presence of Western observers? What will then happen to the SS-20 missiles you have deployed east of the Urals, which are targeted at Asia, but which can be removed or targeted at Europe?

[Chervov] Gentlemen, an important feature of Gorbachev's statement, a feature of the Soviet program to rid the world of nuclear weapons, is its European aspect. The European aspect envisages the liquidation -- I stress -- the liquidation of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles in the European area. We consider parts of the Soviet Union to be European territory, not just the Ural and Trans-Ural area. These are the limits from which missiles from the European area can reach the territory of the Soviet Union; it is about the 80th longitude, where intermediate-range missiles are deployed in the European area. All the missiles in the European area of the Soviet Union as well as the U.S. missiles in Europe must be liquidated, according to Mikhail Gorbachev's program. The liquidation is to take place in the first phase. We do not plan to deploy the missiles in some other place, not in the East nor the West. They will be destroyed, destroyed under careful and reliable control, national and international control, including on-site inspections. There will be no traps, no obstacles, no deception. The missiles will be liquidated. That will be announced to all.

As to the Soviet Union's missiles deployed in our east, they are behind the 80th longitude. They are intermediate-range missiles facing the U.S. intermediate-range nuclear weapons and are grouped to the east of the country. They have no relation at all to the European area. They do not reach the European countries. Now the U.S. side says, for example -- and some people in Western Europe also say -- that those missiles can easily be moved to Western Europe. However, they have another purpose. We cannot deploy them just anywhere. That is not why they are in the east.

If one accepted such so-called logic, I could also ask you and the U.S. side: Just now the U.S. side has begun the production of about 900 Pershings as planned; what are the Pershings for? What is their purpose on U.S. territory? None. So they are also planned to be deployed in Europe. They can be deployed in Europe in a shorter time. Therefore, the deployment of our missiles from the east to the west and from the west to the east is not a serious question.

I would like to finish this thought. The European aspect of the task we are posing now with a view to liquidating U.S. and Soviet missiles in the European area is a very important basic issue. If we were to solve this problem, the European problem of intermediate-range missiles, it would be a decisive step toward nuclear disarmament.

[Loewe] Did I understand you correctly that you agree that the Soviet SS-20 missiles will be destroyed under international control?

[Chervov] Yes, naturally, including inspection.

[Stuetzle] May I ask something more? The destruction of the missiles would mean progress as such. However, just the destruction of the missiles would not suffice. What about the infrastructure belonging to the missiles, that is the launching pads. Who will control the destruction of the launching pads and who will guarantee that new missiles will not be built. In other words, who will control the discontinuation of production?

[Chervov] When I speak of the destruction of missiles, I have in mind not only the missiles themselves, but also the launching pads and infrastructure belonging to these missiles. You know that we have unilaterally taken 27 missiles out of combat preparedness. Mikhail Gorbachev stated that a part of our missiles has been dismantled. The entire infrastructure belonging to these missiles has been dismantled, liquidated. The U.S. side knows it very well. When I speak of the destruction of missiles, launching pads, and other stationary installations belonging to these missiles, it will all take place under international control.

[Joffe] A somewhat political question now. By the way, it is not quite certain whether the Americans are producing 900 Pershing missiles at present. As regards politics, Gorbachev surprisingly, now offers what we call the zero solution, that is no missiles on both sides. This solution could have been achieved by the Soviet Union 6 years ago. That was the official position of Western governments. Why does this offer come so late? Were those people on our side right who said that the Soviet Union will seriously negotiate with us only when we have begun to rearm? Why after 6 years when it was possible earlier when we offered it to you?

[Chervov] If you remember the history of negotiations, you will come to another conclusion and you would not ask this question. I will recall the history for you. On 6 October 1979, that was 6 or even 7 years ago, Leonid Brezhnev made a proposal in Berlin prior to the NATO council's December session on the two-track decision, saying that the Soviet Union was prepared to sit down at the negotiating table and that it was prepared to decrease the number of its intermediate-range missiles if the two-track decision was not made. Do you remember this proposal? You do? All remember it.

Why was it not accepted? Because NATO and the United States wanted, come what may, to achieve the two-track decision. They achieved it.

[Joffe] I remember this speech somewhat differently. I do not believe that Brezhnev offered to destroy all SS-20 missiles targeted on Europe at that time. However, I find it very nice that after 6 years the Soviet Union has reached the point we achieved 6 years ago. I am very happy about it.

[Chervov] I would like to continue. You certainly know our proposal to liquidate all intermediate-range missiles and tactical nuclear missiles in Europe. We made this proposal on the very first day of the negotiations.

We proposed to free Europe from intermediate-range missiles and tactical nuclear weapons. Such a proposal has been made and it is still on the negotiating table. It is so: The Soviet Union proposed such a solution on the very first day.

[Joffe] Both sides, the West and the East, agree that armament should be limited and decreased. Modalities are the problem, controls are the problem. You or Mr Gorbachev say that the proposal we have just discussed cannot exist if the Americans will not discontinue their preparatory work for SDI. However, the problem exists here that the Soviet Union is working on space weapon systems, at least on their research and development. Mr Kvitzinskiy recently introduced the term in Bonn that the Americans should be permitted to continue basic research in the field of SDI. Is that correct and what does that mean?

[Chervov] At present the U.S. side has embarked on the line of cosmic armament, that is the transformation of the arms race into space, the development of a missile defense system on a wide range with elements of cosmic bases. The Soviet Union is categorically against the so-called SDI. It is not against it because of fear of SDI. No. We are against SDI because the gravest consequences for peace could emanate from this. We are unable to get the arms race on earth under control. Now the U.S. side wants to stage an arms race in space. Once an aggressive cosmic weapon has been created and deployed in space, the uncontrolled arms race will have begun. Therefore, the Soviet Union demands that aggressive cosmic weapons be banned in all phases, including scientific research work.

It is said in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement that we are prepared to set up respective controlling laboratories together with the U.S. side. However, laboratories not for the production of cosmic weapons, but for the ban of aggressive cosmic weapons, in order to mutually ensure that neither the United States nor the Soviet Union will produce such weapons.

The U.S. side also proposes to set up laboratories, but it gives the term another meaning. It wants some sort of agreements on the production of cosmic weapons to exist between us so that no side can overtake the other. That is what it is.

[Joffe] Honestly speaking, I do not understand the Soviet indignation. As far as we know, the Soviet Union has been working for 15 years and more on similar or identical systems such as particle weapons, laser weapons. Moreover, the Soviet Union has a fully working antimissile system, it has a fully working antisatellite system. I do not believe the Americans propose to begin a new arms race, it began long ago. The Soviet Union has been fully participating in it for 15 or more years. Or is that not so?

[Chervov] We are engaged in basic research. We do not contest that. Let us say, basic research in the field of lasers. That cannot be prohibited. We do not demand it either; that is logical. This is being done in the field of laser technology in the FRG, Great Britain, and in other countries. What is involved is the problem that lasers should not become a weapon. The Soviet Union is not engaged in any work to produce a laser weapon that would be brought into space to threaten mankind from the cosmos. Therefore, we do not speak of banning basic research. However, we are against targeted research aimed at the production of aggressive cosmic weapons.

[Stuetzle] General, so-called experts in the West say that the Soviet Union already has destroyed space satellites with laser weapons. The four of us sitting here can neither prove this nor the opposite.

However, if General Secretary Gorbachev now proposes to permit research work, but not transformation into weapons, he is offering a degree of control demanding that all Soviet laboratories, all laboratories, all universities, including Krasnoyarsk and its giant radar installations be opened. Two questions now. Is that acceptable to the Soviet social system? In what time, do you think, can this desirable aim be achieved?

[Chervov] What shall I tell you in connection with this question? Let us assume that I have overtaken you in the production of laser weapons. Let us assume such a hypothetical situation. I am ahead of you. Suddenly I suggest to you to destroy the laser weapon. You are lagging behind. What conclusion is obvious? Naturally, you must agree to destroy this weapon. That is the current situation. If the Soviet Union is leading in the production of weapons and we suggest destruction, why should the other side that is lagging behind not agree? Even more so because we will open these laboratories.

As regards the laser weapon, in the West one refers to it; that in the Soviet Union, in the Staryi Shagan area, a laser installation has been set up that can be used as a laser weapon. That is disinformation. At the Staryi Shagan shooting range there really is a laser testing installation used for experiments and the location of cosmic objects, using the laser for the exact definition of the parameter of cosmic objects. We do not contest that. The U.S. side knows it exactly. However, this is not a laser weapon. The U.S. side knows it very well. However, in order to confuse the people, the Americans pretend it is a laser weapon. That is disinformation.

[Joffe] May I get back to the question? The question is that Gorbachev has offered to open everything. Our question is: What an effect will that have on the Soviet social system; namely, suddenly doing something that the Soviet Union has never permitted in 50 or 60 years? Do you really believe this can happen; namely, to open a closed society that much?

[Chervov] Come now, our statement has been thoroughly considered, it is very balanced and responsible. All the Soviet leadership says, all that has been said in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement is real, everything can be implemented and will be. There was never a difference between our words and actions. Therefore, one can say in full responsibility to all the people that all this is real.

[Stuetzle] General, nobody among us here thinks little of this progressive idea of Soviet foreign policy. However, it is so far only an idea. Our questions only pertain to the concrete action, the implementation of the program. What will the modalities be? A much simpler matter now. Why, for example, has the Soviet Union invited maneuver observers to the Soviet Union only three times since the signing of the Helsinki CSCE act -- you as a general staff member know it. We have extended invitations to more than 30 maneuvers in the FRG. These are concrete signs indicating that one is really interested in building confidence. I do not want to play Gorbachev's proposals down, I just ask about concrete action.

[Chervov] I agree with you that there is a lack of confidence among us at present. We need confidence from both sides. We must approach each other to strengthen confidence. As regards the maneuver invitations, you have inaccurate information. I know exactly how many people we have invited to maneuvers and how many maneuver announcements have been made. Your information that we have extended only three invitations is inaccurate. According to the Helsinki Final Act, any side does not invite observers from all 35 European states. That is not necessary. Let us say we will have a maneuver in Caucasia. We have announced the maneuver. Let us say we can invite maneuver observers from Turkey, Italy, Greece, Spain, and Portugal -- that is, from the region where the maneuver will take place.

I must tell you that no FRG representatives will be invited by us to such maneuvers. This maneuver will take place far from the FRG. If a maneuver will take place in central Europe, FRG representatives will be invited.

I will tell you something else. This question was discussed with Helmut Schmidt long ago. When Helmut Schmidt was in Moscow and talked with Defense Minister Ustinov, Ustinov said: Mr Chancellor, at present we mutually invite only military attaches to maneuvers. Let us extend this. Why do we invite only military attaches? Send us Bundeswehr representatives, general staff representatives. Schmidt said: Okay, I will instruct my defense minister, Mr Apel, accordingly. It so happened that one year later I met Helmut Schmidt and Apel also. I asked Mr Apel whether he had received such instructions. No, he said, there were none. Then I asked Helmut Schmidt why he told it in such a way to his defense minister without giving him instructions. Let us achieve more confidence and mutually invite each other to maneuvers. I do not want to say what Helmut Schmidt answered. At any rate, this idea was not implemented. It was not our fault. Confidence must be achieved from both sides. One says that one shakes hands with two hands.

[Stuetzle] Mr General, incidentially, I know the story you are talking about very well and agree that the fact that it went wrong cannot be blamed on you alone. However, it also cannot be blamed on the Federal Republic alone. The question resulting from that is...

[Chervov, interrupting] I have blamed no one. I only gave an example.

[Stuetzle] Yes, but I know the story very well and it is a nice coincidence for us to talk about something whose details we cannot fully reveal to our television audience. However, the question resulting from that is: Why do we not improve that in the future? Why should it not be possible for cadets of the Soviet Army to study at the Bundeswehr leadership academy and why does the Soviet Army not invite Bundeswehr student officers to study at the Frunze academy for a year?

[Chervov] That requires great confidence, very great confidence. Obviously, we have not yet reached a state that would allow us to resolve your problem.

[Loewe] You are certainly right. We must begin with confidence, in other words, with many small steps. Considering the Gorbachev proposal, what do you think would be the first step to begin with?

[Chervov] Of the whole range of nuclear disarmament problems proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, I would place the reduction of nuclear explosions first. Nuclear explosions must be discontinued. That is a real step toward disarmament. I believe all realistically thinking people and the public in general understand what the halt of nuclear tests means for confidence building. An absolute majority of the public advocates that. They are aware that the Soviet Union has not found it at all easy to extend the moratorium. What the U.S. side has said -- that it depends on the season, that the Soviet Union conducts nuclear explosions only in the summer and not in the winter, and that the Soviet Union has conducted more nuclear explosions than the United States -- all that is not true. All that is an attempt to deceive the public. You could say directly that the U.S. refusal to join our moratorium has to do with the fact that it does not want an end to the nuclear arms race. Therefore, the first step is the halt of nuclear explosions.

The second step. Our program is realistic and must be studied now in the negotiations, in the negotiations on nuclear weapons in space that are conducted in Geneva by Kvitsinskiy and Karpov as well as, on the U.S. side, by Kampelman, Tower, and Glitman.

However, regrettably the U.S. side has only shrugged so far. It is not ready to respond to our proposals. There are no instructions from Washington.

[Joffe] You addressed the problem of confidence. I found it interesting for you to say it was still too early to start something like an exchange of cadets for studies at our academies. I am asking myself, if there is not enough confidence for such small actions, what makes General Secretary Gorbachev promise the abolition of all nuclear weapons within the next 15 years? How is that supposed to work?

[Chervov] I do not think the nuclear disarmament program can be related to an exchange of cadets. That is not the problem.

[Joffe] Confidence.

[Chervov] Yes, it is a matter of confidence. The only thing I can tell you is the fact that in our view the Soviet program is absolutely realistic. It is no utopia and no fiction. Its reality consists of the fact that we have now proposed concrete stages time limits, orders of succession, procedures, and ranges for the liquidation of nuclear weapons. I must tell you that the Soviet Union and the United States have a great deal of experience in working out methods for the practical destruction of nuclear weapons and control. All that shows that the measures for the liquidation of nuclear weapons are feasible. In addition, everthing will be under strict national and international control. Therefore, we must approach each other, if only by small steps, for mutual confidence. And you are right here; we will probably not begin with the cadets. Let us put an end to nuclear explosions. That will creat confidence. Let us study the nuclear disarmament program. That will create confidence. Those are the fundamental problems.

[Joffe] So you think eliminating nuclear weapons is easier than exchanging cadets.

[Chervov] Perhaps it is even easier.

[Joffe] Hm.

[Chervov] We are not dealing with the exchange of cadets or academy students. They will eventually be dealt with. That is no problem. We have never considered it a problem.

[Loewe] Mr General, I have an entirely different question that you as an army man and general staff member, can certainly answer also. Why does the continental power, the Soviet Union, have such a large fleet?

[Chervov] To answer your question, one must know very well what the U.S. naval forces represent, what the NATO states' naval forces represent, and what the Soviet naval forces represent. Before 1960, the U.S. side did not talk about the Soviet naval forces. They thought they were a coastal fleet without any influence on the international situation. Now the U.S. side has begun to talk about the Soviet naval forces, because our naval forces have analogous warships and analogous weapons. That means we have come closer to the U.S. war fleet. Nobody disputes that we have efficient naval forces. However, the Americans exaggerate things quite a bit regarding the Soviet Navy. Let me give you some figures to prove that. The U.S. warships displace about 4 million tons of water, the Soviet Union's about 3 million. That is one of the reasons why people closely regard the Soviet naval fleet and totally disregard the U.S. fleet.

[Loewe] But does the Soviet Union really need such a large fleet for its security as a continental power?

[Chervov] The Soviet Union is not only a continental power. It is also a military naval power.

[Stuetzle] That brings us to another question, Mr General. Assuming that General Secretary Gorbachev's idea to eliminate all nuclear weapons on earth by the year 2000 could be implemented, what about the Warsaw Pact's superiority in conventional weapons; the costs of which are a much higher burden in the East and West than the costs of nuclear weapons?

[Chervov] I am ready to discuss that problem with any NATO experts, military experts. There is no superiority. If you talk about superiority, I must ask you questions. On NATO's side the French and Spanish Armed Forces are left out of account. Why? On NATO's side the stockpiled means of mobilization are left out of account. Why? On NATO's side only those forces are taken into account which are under General Rogers' command. However, that is not all. There are other forces under national command.

[Stuetzle] Mr General, if I may interrupt you -- it has always been a mistake for the NATO states to allow the Soviet Union to use this easy, propagandistic argument. It is true that NATO does not officially take the French and Spanish Armed Forces into account. However, even the Soviet Union (?accepts) the information by the very renowned London Institute for Strategic Studies...

[Chervov, interrupting] That is not correct, they must be taken into account.

[Loewe] That leads to a very clear imbalance in the Warsaw Pact's favor. I have a very brief question and would like a brief answer. In Gorbachev's proposal the Chinese capabilities are not taken into account at all. Why not?

[Chervov] No, that is not quite correct. Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal -- and that is a special quality of our nuclear disarmament program -- concerns all nuclear powers, including China. It is another thing that the first stage essentially concerns the Soviet Union and the United States. The second stage -- the liquidation of the tactical weapons -- concerns the other states' tactical weapons. The third stage -- after 1995 -- marks the beginning of the so-called strategic weapons of third countries, including Britain, France, and China. China is not excluded.

[Stuetzle] May I ask you another question?

[Chervov] Of course.

[Stuetzle] In March 1977, Foreign Minister Gromyko asked the then President Carter whether he was ready to take care of the British and French weapons in the sense of reduction. Carter answered with the question: Are you ready to take care of the Chinese weapons? Gromyko changed the subject. [Laughter] Is the situation different today? Are you courageous enough to talk to the Chinese about their nuclear weapons?

[Chervov] There has been no talk about negotiations. The Soviet Union submitted a program on the liquidation of nuclear weapons. We also do not talk about negotiations with Britain and France. That is not at issue. Mikhail Gorbachev also said in Paris that there is talk about the possibility of these states discussing their nuclear capbilities -- he used the term discussion, not negotiations. Perhaps these discussions will eventually deepen and flow into negotiations. That is possible. So there is no change of position, not even regarding Britain and France.

[Loewe] Mr General, thank you very much for having come to us. We hope that we will really advance on the road to disarmament. Thank you very much.

SAGDEYEU OUTLINES SOVIET RESPONSE TO SDI

PM121507 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Feb 86 p 3

[Interview with Academician R. Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research, by correspondent Yu. Knyaze: "What Lurks Behind the SDI Concept?"]

[Text] President Reagan, the Pentagon and NATO generals, and some U.S. politicians and statesmen are trying to convince the public in the United States and in West European countries that the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) is dictated by concern for human civilization and for its security; that the United States has no intention of seeking military superiority, but only intends to create a purely defensive "antimissile shield." What is the "Strategic Defense Initiative"? Correspondent Yu. Knyazev put this question to Academician R. Sagdeyev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Space Research.

"There is a path that leads directly to the deliverance of mankind from the threat of nuclear war," R. Sagdeyev said. "It is the path of consistently ridding the world of nuclear weapon stockpiles. This path demands maximum political wisdom and resolve on the part of each of the participants in military confrontation. It is this approach to the elimination of the danger of a devastating nuclear war that our country has consistently advocated. This is confirmed by the comprehensive program for the elimination of the means of mass destruction which was recently put forward by M.S. Gorbachev.

"But if one is setting out to preserve nuclear arsenals, the arms race, and the volumes of military orders received by the military industry, then, of course, this aim is best served by the 'star wars' program. It is already clear that the implementation of this plan will require the kind of funds never before spent on armaments.

"The nuclear genie was let out of the U.S. bottle in 1945 and it can only be chased back into the bottle by a renunciation of nuclear weapons, not by new technological genies released into space.

"The supporters of SDI give assurances that nuclear weapons and stockpiles of bombs can be rendered harmless and obsolete by a defense system which, allegedly, would be able to parry every missile and every warhead in the event of a nuclear conflict. As a physicist involved with modern space technology, I can say that it is a sheer utopia. In fact, even assuming (this is absolutely impossible in practice) that the destruction of 99 percent of the warheads in flight is guaranteed, the remainder will be quite sufficient to ensure a destructive effect equivalent to thousands of Hiroshimas. Yet there is a considerable number of specific ways of overcoming this defensive shield.

"So all this is nothing more than an illusion, although an extremely dangerous illusion. Indeed, instead of directing the quest for a way out of the nuclear impasse into a political channel, onto the path of talks, the 'star wars' program could cause a dangerous delay in the solution of this question, perhaps not until future generations come along. Meanwhile, the widening of the arms race and its transfer to space may make the process irreversible and a return to the negotiating table impossible. That is why our country is pressing so hard to prevent an arms race in space."

[Knyazev] Are there scientists in the West who are aware of the danger of the arms race?

[Sagdeyev] Yes, and their number is growing.

Their conclusions are based on serious scientific analysis, utilizing the achievements of modern physics and laser and computer technology. They are well acquainted with the technological options being proposed by the advocates of "star wars." Computer software experts say the computer system controlling the strategic defense would have to handle such an unprecedented quantity of information that there would inevitably be a vast number of errors. Usually, full-scale tests are carried out when developing programs for computer systems, even much more modest systems, for use in military and civilian technology. Only through tests is it possible to identify and eliminate software errors. But in the "star wars" program full-scale tests would mean a nuclear catastrophe.

[Knyazev] And what is the opinion of sober-minded military specialists?

[Sagdeyev] Military strategy experts, including a number of well-known former U.S. military men, have more than once expressed their view that the overall strategic equilibrium in the world, based on competition between offensive and defensive weapons, including space weapons, is extremely unstable. One of the main flaws in this strategic opposition became apparent back in the sixties: It is that competition between offensive and defensive weapons would lead to an unlimited buildup of nuclear arsenals. The proposed space deployment adds a whole series of strategic instabilities of its own. After all, space-based elements of an antimissile defense can themselves become extremely dangerous strike weapons.

[Knyazev] In their SDI propaganda, the advocates of "star wars" say that implementation of the program would lead to progress in civilian spheres of technology and that all the expense would be recouped...

[Sagdeyev] Yes, they do put forward these arguments. Of course, they may be spin-offs from particular military programs. In the event of SDI, strategic stability would be the first victim. But any benefit from the "star wars" program in terms of peaceful applications is very problematical. The point is that the technology needed for the destruction of remote military targets demands the creation of specialized, and I would even say extravagant, technical facilities. For example, who would need, for industrial and technological purposes, to create a superlaser capable of setting objects on fire at a distance of hundreds of kilometers and more?

[Knyazev] What would the socialist community's response be if the "star wars" program was intensively developed in the capitalist countries?

[Sagdeyev] First of all, I want to say the "star wars" plans will not work even if they spend many billions of dollars. But military technology could be improved in the course of the program's elaboration and this would require certain retaliatory measures based on the use of, among other things, new technologies and new ideas. One of the most effective forms of retaliation is the use of so-called countermeasures, that is, methods which would sharply reduce the effectiveness of the space elements of "star wars" and immediately demonstrate to the originators of the concept that their efforts are futile. Potential countermeasures of this kind have been discussed by scientists and military strategists. They include a relatively varied collection of methods that are far cheaper than SDI. Our country is in favor of the solution of all problems by political means and has demonstrated this in practice on more than one occasion.

PETROVSKIY EVALUATES MERITS OF GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

PM291623 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[V. [illegible]skiy comment under the rubric "Interview Via Teleprinter": "The Art of Fi[illegible]mon Language" -- first three paragraphs are SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA intr[illegible]n]

[Text] The following report has arrived at the editorial office:

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou has declared that "the USSR's new initiatives are some of the most positive steps that could be taken in the present situation."

We have asked Vladimir Federovich Petrovskiy, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary and member of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry Collegium, to comment on this.

This report is not fortuitous. The disarmament plan put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has evoked a broad response in the world. Summing up all the proposals contained in this document, one could say that it defines the shortest routes to, and specifies very precise landmarks for moving in the direction of, limitation in the most dangerous spheres of the arms race. The statement is not just a declaration. It contains a realistic platform for specific and resolute action.

The essence of the Soviet approach to international problems is the following: Security is now created by political rather than military means. Yet this can be achieved only by means of talks. And I would like to particularly emphasize -- fruitful talks.

It is often argued in the West that diplomatic talks are an art. This is beyond question, of course. But when the reasoning begins to resemble the concept of "art for art's sake," or in the language of diplomats "talks for talks' sake," then we resolutely reject it. Today it is important not just to set the whole system of bilateral and multilateral talks in motion, but, most importantly, to ensure that they yield as much as possible.

No matter what question concerning international relations we focus on, it can be settled only be means of dialogue. Take for example the problem of delivering mankind for nuclear weapons. The questions that could be tackled during the first stage of nuclear disarmament as set out in the statement fit organically within the range of problems that are currently being discussed in Geneva at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms which have resumed.

Dialogue is also needed to end all nuclear tests and thus to block this channel of improving nuclear weapons. While appealing to the United States to join the moratorium on all nuclear explosions which we have declared unilaterally, we also favor the resumption of the tripartite talks (between the USSR, the United States, and Britain) on a general and complete nuclear weapons test ban. We are also prepared, within the framework of the Geneva Disarmament Conference which resumes its work 4 February, to open multilateral talks with the participation of all nuclear powers on banning nuclear tests. We support the nonaligned countries' proposal to hold consultations with a view to extending the 1963 Moscow treaty to include underground tests.

We are in favor of sharply increasing the yield of the Vienna talks whose next round begins on 30 January. In Vienna, as is well known, a no less important task, the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces in central Europe, is being discussed.

Now let us turn to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe which has resumed its work. Here, too, we have put forward a number of far-reaching, constructive proposals which make it possible to rapidly eliminate obstacles that have long been blocking progress there.

The questions that are being discussed in Vienna, Stockholm, and Geneva are, in one way or another, connected with the problem of verification. We are in favor of specific verification measures forming an integral part of every accord on arms limitation and disarmament.

U.S. ENVOY PRESENTS 'GARBLED LOGIC' ON ARMS ISSUE

LD141129 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Breaking official silence on the Soviet disarmament plan advanced by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15th January, Donald Lowitz, the chief of the United States delegation in Geneva on Tuesday told the 40 nation disarmament conference that a comprehensive treaty on banning chemical weapons remained Washington's top priority. Here's some details:

At the same time, Mr Lowitz dismissed a series of interim measures leading to a comprehensive ban contained in the Soviet program, such as an agreement on a multilateral basis not to transfer chemical weapons to anyone and not to deploy them in the territories of other states. Here's a sample of logic provided by the chief of the United States delegation at the Geneva conference: It might seem easier to postpone resolution of the difficult issues, including verification, to a later time and to make progress on the less difficult matters, but such an approach would create a false impression -- that sufficient momentum has been generated to sweep all obstacles aside in the interests of concluding an agreement.

Well, we understand that Mr Lowitz and other officials who are dragging their feet on the Soviet plans would love to disarm tomorrow, to have no nuclear, chemical, or other weapons, but if this country proposed such a thing they would start chuckling about how unrealistic it is, that it's pie in the sky, and that disarmement, being a very serious matter, requires time and interim measures to facilitate progress, build trust, and so on. But when the Soviet Union proposes to speed up movement with the help of interim measures, it creates a false impression of progress and they're rejected.

The Soviet plan covers a period of 15 years, that is, by the year 2000, and is divided into three clearly defined stages. When United States officials say no to Soviet offers they wind up in a somewhat awkward situation because of their garbled logic. They tell us they want to build new weapons in order to get rid of them. When invited to get rid of arms, they cannot do so because they haven't built those weapons yet. They've just started a multibillion program of America's chemical rearmament. Its thrust is on a new generation of such weapons, known as binary nerve gas shells and bombs -- those things that Mr Lowitz would love to ban tomorrow without any interim measures.

REAGAN ADDRESS AIMS AT 'IMPERIAL POLICY'

PM110951 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Review by V. Pustov: "On the Basis of Hackneyed Stereotypes," under the general heading "Military-Political Review"]

[Text] It seemed to be an act of divination when the LOS ANGELES TIMES predicted that senators and members of the House of Representatives would be stunned by President R. Reagan's "State of the Union" address. This is what actually happened. Many legislators, not to mention ordinary Americans, to whom peace and international security are dear, had good cause to feel alarmed. It did not go unnoticed by them, for example, that not a word was said in the message from the master of the White House about the program put forward in the 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to totally eliminate nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000. This is a program which has aroused benevolent responses throughout the world and which, if accepted by the U.S. Administration, would, to quote the Boston newspaper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, begin a new chapter in the history of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union at the end of the 20th century.

Here the question arises: Which chapter in Soviet-U.S. relations would the President and Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, together with members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, like to open, the latter having almost simultaneously issued statements and reports on the Pentagon budget for fiscal year 1987 and on "the U.S. military position in the world"? Some of their anti-Soviet statements have a whiff of the bad memory of the "cold war." They attempt to validate their demands to continue increasing military expenditure and building up arms with a series of hackneyed anti-Soviet stereotypes and totally false accusations that the Soviet Union "strives for domination."

The President said he will insist on a "modest, but constant increase" in military appropriations. The real essence of the President's "modesty" has already been reflected in the fact that, under the present administration, U.S. military expenditure has increased more than 1.5 times. P. Kirk, chairman of the U.S. Democratic Party National Committee, noted that the policy of inflating military expenditure pursued by the present administration has meant that, over the 5 years it has been in power, the U.S. national debt (according to official data, it has reached $2 trillion) has increased as much as it did "during the time in power by all previous presidents, from G. Washington to J. Carter." And it is under these conditions that appropriations for military purposes have been demanded to the tune of $320.3 billion for the next fiscal year -- for the Pentagon, the Department of Energy, and other departments. It is proposed to allocate $311.6 billion to the Pentagon, which is almost 12 percent more than the sum allocated in the current fiscal year.

What, one asks, is the purpose of the planned military appropriations? The answer can be found in disclosures by the Pentagon chief. It is "to create an up-to-date military potential capable of ensuring the fulfillment of all of our obligations in the world...with an acceptable degree of risk." And to implement the "star wars" program disguised as a defense program.

Two kinds of measures are implied by "obligations" and "risk." First, those directly connected with the doctrine of "neoglobalism." This doctrine envisages provoking "low-intensity conflicts" everywhere in the world. This verbal camouflage conceals planned aggressive actions on various scales. "We must decide," the Pentagon chief lectures, "what form interference must take and, if we decide to intervene, by what means and with the aid of which organs."

The occupation of small, defenseless Grenada by U.S. troops, the drive to stifle Nicaragua, and provocation by U.S. naval forces along Libyan shores -- these are just some graphic illustrations of how this is decided and performed.

The draft Pentagon budget for fiscal year 1987 envisages increasing the numerical strength of U.S. Armed Forces by almost 14,000 and that of the reserves and the National Guard by 52,000, and acquiring hundreds of new M-1 Abrams tanks, infantry combat vehicles, armored personnel carriers, 4 strike submarines, 2 cruisers, 3 missile destroyers, 384 F-15, F-16, F-18A fighter planes, and so forth. It is planned to strengthen the potential of rapid deployment interventionist forces.

Second (in reckoning, but not in significance), measures are being planned to ensure a quantitative build-up in first-strike nuclear means. The question is being raised, for example, of creating 100 MX ICBMs with dividing warheads [MIRVs] (10 warheads each with a capacity of 600 kilotons). The means are being provided for building another Ohio-type nuclear missile submarine carrying 24 Trident-1 missiles (8 warheads each with a capacity of 100 kilotons on each missile).

The draft Pentagon budget also outlines the creation, development, and deployment of other nuclear weapon offensive systems: Midgetmen ICBMs, new strategic bombers, Pershing-2 medium-range ballistic missiles, and cruise missiles. In a word, everything aimed at fulfilling a dangerous, albeit impossible dream -- to gain military superiority.

In the United States, as in other countries, last week was overshadowed by the Challenger catastrophe. Suffering deeply from the tragedy, people continue to ask many questions; not only about the purely technical causes of the tragedy. The explosion of one of the four U.S. multi-use spaceships has particularly clearly highlighted and emphasized the truly global dimensions of the threat with which the "star wars" program is fraught for all mankind. "President Reagan," the Indian newspaper THE TELEGRAPH writes, "must realize the danger that lies in his 'Strategic Defense Initiative.' The Challenger catastrophe destroyed several human lives. A failure in the 'star wars' system could bring down a nuclear winter on the whole of mankind." Is this not the reason why access to correct information on the real causes, consequences, and persons responsible for the catastrophe is barred, to quote THE WASHINGTON POST, by an "iron curtain"?

Washington would like to keep a great deal secret. The ominous link, for example, between the space shuttle program, of which the ill-fated Challenger flight was a part, and the program to militarize space. R. Perle, assistant defense secretary, claims that the former supposedly has only an insignificant military component. This is said notwithstanding the fact that the Pentagon, as THE WASHINGTON POST stresses, is NASA's "major employer," instructing its shuttles to convey military components into space within the framework of the "star wars" program.

It is precisely the Pentagon that is now most concerned with finding the speediest solution to the problem of how and with what to replace the destroyed Challenger which, like other shuttles, was intended, in particular, to take intelligence satellites and other military-purpose units into space. It is calculated that building a new spaceship would cost approximately $2 billion and would take 2 and 1/2 years. Consequently, the question of using launch vehicles such as the Titan, for example, instead of Challenger is being considered as an alternative. It is not ruled out that the hasty Pentagon will request additional funds to build new, more powerful rockets which would be capable of carrying heavy military components into space.

The draft military budget attests to the desire to speed up the militarization of space. A total of $4.8 billion is being requested for fiscal year 1987 to implement the infamous "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI) -- almost double that for the current fiscal year.

And next year it is planned to increase the correspondent appropriations to $3.5 billion.

U.S. militarist programs reveal another connection which clearly refutes unsubstantiated claims as to the supposedly "inoffensive" nature of SDI. The existence of this connection has even been admitted by Weinberger, who stated that SDI must be one of the buttresses of the U.S. nuclear "restraining factor" for many years to come and that it is a "component part and cornerstone of a whole series of changes" in U.S. strategic forces. In other words, the creation of one causes a sharp increase in the other. Both strategic and space weapons may be used as first nuclear strike means.

Although it is planned to complete implementation of the entire undertaking with "star wars" in 10 years, it will have very serious consequences -- if Washington persists in this matter -- even in the immediate future. "The fact of the matter is," M.S. Gorbachev says in his replies to questions put by the newspaper L'HUMANITE, "that, by implementing the 'star wars' program, Washington is basically consciously wrecking negotiations in progress and canceling all existing agreements on arms limitation. In this case, even in the immediate future, the Soviet Union and the United States, their allies, and the whole world would find themselves in a situation of an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, strategic chaos, the most dangerous undermining of stability, universal uncertainty and fear, and, connected with all this, an increase in the risk of a catastrophe."

It is precisely on this level that we must evaluate the President's "State of the Union" address and the statements by U.S. military leaders. They are aimed at extorting additional large sums for pursuing an imperial policy "from a position of strength" and for taking on more and more new lethal systems. Illusory hopes of the United States gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union and of realizing the foolhardy idea of a "crusade" against socialism are now primarily connected with implementation of the "star wars" program.

The Soviet Union's precise, clear response to this challenge is well known. We are not afraid of falling behind in the space race if it is forced on us. Our military and technological potential should not be put to the test again. This could cost not only ourselves and the United States dearly, irreparably dearly, but also the whole of mankind. This serious warning has met with support from all people who soberly appraise the threat to peace emanating from the forces of war and aggression.

SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSSES ARMS WITH CANADIANS

LD131515 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Ottawa, February 13 TASS -- Conversations have taken place here with the participation of N. Uspenskiy, representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, on the Soviet program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement on January 15. The Canadian participants in the conversations included J. Taylor, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of Canada, A. Sullivan, deputy minister of foreign affairs, W. Wineguard, chairman of the House of Commons committee for foreign affairs and national defense, and other officials.

BLOC NUCLEAR EXPORT CONFERENCE HELD IN BERLIN

LD132226 Moscow TASS in English 2211 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Berlin February 13 TASS -- Socialist countries exporting nuclear materials, equipment and technology held a meeting in Berlin on February 12-13.

Its participants stressed that the implementation of the large-scale programme of eliminating all nuclear weapons, given a ban on strike space armaments, advanced by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, would bring about a drastic improvement in the international situation, avert the nuclear threat and strengthen peace on earth.

The meeting's participants discussed a broad range of questions connected with the further consolidation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Noting the positive results of the third nuclear non-proliferation review conference, the meeting's participants came out in favour of the early implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the conference, directed at banning the testing of nuclear weapons and strengthening the international regime of non-proliferation.

Special attention was given during debates to measures for enhancing control over nuclear export. While favouring broad development of international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, the meeting's participants stressed the immense importance of strict compliance by all sides with their pledges under the non-proliferation treaty and other international accords.

The meeting's participants expressed their support for the activity of the International Atomic Energy Agency in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and came out in favour of enhancing the agency's role in ensuring control, especially in non-nuclear states.

The heads of the delegation were received by secretary of state, First Deputy Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic Herbert Krolikowski. The meeting was chaired by the head of the GDR delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister Peter Florin.

SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARY MEETING ENDS IN WARSAW

LD141146 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The consultative meeting of leaders of parliamentary groups of the socialist countries has ended in Warsaw. Delegates from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, the DPRK, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia took part in it. The Soviet Union was represented by Voss, deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group and chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USS Supreme Soviet.

The importance of the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in which a comprehensive program of initiatives directed toward freeing the world from nuclear weapons was advanced, for the cause of preventing a nuclear war and improving international tension, was emphasized at the meeting.

PORTUGALOV ON SAKHAROV, AGENT EXCHANGE, ARMS

AU131507 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 13 Feb 86 p 7

["Exclusive interview" with Nikolay Portugalov, "Influential Soviet politician in charge of international information at the CPSU Central Committee" to ARBEITER-ZEITUNG reporters Georg Hoffmann-Ostenhof and Robert Wiesner in Vienna on 12 February]

[Text] [NEUE AZ] Mr Portugalov, may I begin with a very topical question? Is the so-called 'agents' exchange," in the course of which Shcharanskiy has now been released, an isolated event, or is this generally embedded in the new Gorbachev policy?

PORTUGALOV: I would not attach any special signifiance to this event. It is not the first time that this has been done. No, that is not embedded into a general development. It is not world-moving. I understand you, it is indeed a topic of the day, but believe me, in 2 days no one will care about it any more. You refer to Shcharanskiy with the puzzling term dissident [Regimekriticer].

[NEUE AZ] Puzzling?

PORTUGALOV: Yes, but for us he is a secret political agent of the other side. If they want to have Shcharanskiy, well, now they have got him, delivered free of charge.

[NEUE AZ] But Sakharov is certainly not an agent?

PORTUGALOV: No agent.

[NEUE AZ] Would he not bother you less in New York than in Gorkiy?

PORTUGALOV: Let me cite the weighty word of General Secretary Gorbachev, who said that for us there is an insurmountable obstacle that does not permit us to let Academy member Sakharov move abroad: He is a bearer of the highest state secrets. As father of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, he is absolutely familiar with our scientific and strategic research work in this field...

[NEUE AZ] He may have been that -- 15 years ago...

PORTUGALOV: First of all, regarding such weapons systems, one is working and thinking in terms of long time period. Second, he is an important physician, which is proved by the fact that he is still working in his field and is writing scientifically important publications. He continues to be familiar with the arms-technological development in our country. But one should not overrate those kinds of problems.

[NEUE AZ] OK, then let us turn to the disarmament problem. How do you assess the West's reaction to Gorbachev's three-phase plan that provides for total nuclear disarmament by the turn of the century?

PORTUGALOV: The Europeans have reacted rather positively and have shown themselves to be rather open-minded. The Americans, on the other hand, for the time being have not gone beyond a generally positive attitude. They are in no particular hurry to come up with specific reactions.

[NEUE AZ] Could you clarify that? The three-phase plan -- to what extent is it linked with Washington's renouncing the "star wars" program to which you are so opposed?

PORTUGALOV: I can give you a very precise answer: Regarding the solving of the intermediate-range missile problem -- that is, removal of all intermediate-range weapons of the United States and the USSR in Europe -- there is no linkage with SDI; there is no linkage with the general nuclear test freeze; nor is there a linkage with the Vienna negotiations on conventional armament, or the Stockholm CDE process. Here agreements can be reached irrespective of the U.S. attitude toward SDI.

[NEUE AZ] "Removal," "elimination" of the intermediate-range weapons -- what does this mean? Transfer or liquidation?

PORTUGALOV: It must be unequivocally declared: To remove means to destroy. There will be no moving around of missiles from West to East, as is occasionally imputed to us. They will be destroyed. And not only these missiles will be destroyed but also the pertinent launching pads, everything that has been deployed.

[NEUE AZ] And this destruction will be verified?

PORTUGALOV: Yes, all this will be verified, nationally and internationally, including on-the-spot inspections. But, you see: the three-phase plan is not meant to be a "do or die" proposition, but a basis for negotiations. In our opinion it is indeed a far better basis than would have been at all conceivable in the past few years.

[NEUE AZ] If one considers that in the first phase of the plan up to 1990 the French and the British would not have to destroy their intermediate-range missiles but could even modernize them, then one gets the impression that there might after all be some justification to the charge that Moscow is seeking to drive a wedge between the United States and Europe.

PORTUGALOV: Listen, we are realists. This is certainly unrealistic, given the deeply-rooted relations between the United States and Europe. But, it is true that we do distinguish between a policy guided by genuine West European interests, and an unconditional, let me say vassal-like, dependence on America. There exist, of course, nuances within the European alliance. But these are European decisions.

[NEUE AZ] But one nevertheless gets the impression that Gorbachev has adopted a more differentiated and more differentiating policy vis-avis the Europeans in NATO...

PORTUGALOV: I would not contradict you in this respect. And it is quite obvious, why: On the two -- or, if you want to include China, three -- big powers we are the only European one. We are indeed part of Europe ourselves.

SHEVARDNADZE, UN OFFICIAL DISCUSS AFGHANISTAN

PM131119 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] On 11 Feburary E. A. Shevardnadze, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received D. Cordovez, UN deputy secretary general, mediator in the Afghan-Pakistani talks, who is visiting Moscow.

Questions were discussed concerning international guarantees of a possible political settlement which these talks are to produce. E.A. Shevardnadze noted that, as M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, the Soviet Union is determined that substantial progress will be achieved in the cause of a political settlement around Afghanistan in 1986.

D. Cordovez also had a conversation with G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

LYUTYY ON U.S. 'FINANCIAL BLACKMAIL' OF UN

LD111309 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 11 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksander Lyutyy.

The United States is reducing its role at the United Nations and its specialized bodies, which follows from the draft federal budget for the 1987 financial year, submitted by Ronald Reagan's administration to Congress.

The draft provides for cuts in U.S. contributions to the international organizations by 10 million dollars. The U.S. Government will continue pursuing its restrictory budgetary policy with regard to the United Nations, the draft says.

Washington's attempt to resort to financial blackmail of the world community is obvious. U.S. Administration officials have for several years been mounting a campaign of slander against the United Nations and its specialized bodies, hardly hiding their irritation over the growing criticism of the U.S. adventurous course at world community circles.

Unable to suppress the criticism, the United States is using traditional methods of threats and financial "sanctions" with regard to the most authoritative international organization.

Moreover, the United States actually stopped its participation in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Now, the White House is threatening to boycott those specialized bodies of the United Nations where Israel, Washington's chief Middle East ally, is sharply criticized for aggressive actions.

Attempting to undermine the U.N. finances, the American Government thus contradicts its own assurances of its "commitment" to the charter and objectives of the world community, directed at strengthening peace and international mutual understanding.

In reality, it is crude diktat, pressure and interference in the affairs of other states which are the core of U.S. foreign policy. It is cynically stressed in the draft federal budget that rather than increasing allocations for the activity of the United Nations, the administration decided to give higher priority to other forms of assistance to foreign states. The point at issue is primarily the escalation of arms deliveries to Washington's allies and puppets around the world.

DEBATE OPENS IN UN ON PEACEFUL USE OF SPACE

LD122219 Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshov reports:

The realization of mankind's peaceful plans in outer space is possible only in conditions of its non-militarization and development of peaceful international cooperation. This idea keynoted the general debate which opened at a session of the scientific and technical subcommittee of the U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

The boundaries of space, which should be used only for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all people, should be slammed shut for weapons, said Truong Trieu Duong, a repsentative of Vietnam, who opened the debate. Regrettably, the threat overhanging mankind and emanating from the intention to deploy weapons in outer space under the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" arouses increased concern.

Man's energies should be directed at ensuring conditions for cooperation in peaceful exploration of the boundless expanses of space rather than spreading the arms race into it, said Stanislav Crzedzielski (Poland). The way to space should be open only for peaceful purposes and only for mankind's benefit, said Robert Knuth (the German Democratic Republic). The success of international cooperation in outer space hinges, above all, on the display of the good will on the part of all states.

The participants in the session heard with great interest a report by Academician O.G. Gazenko, head of the Soviet delegation, on the stage-by-stage implementation of a broad programme for exploring and using outer space and deepening U.S.S.R.'s international cooperation in this field. It has become totally obvious lately, he said, that the solution of the cardinal problems of strengthening peace and international cooperation, reducing armaments and promoting disarmament, and developing broad inter-state cooperation depends in a crucial degree on the way along which further exploration of space will be carried out -- either it is preserved peaceful or it is converted into a potential arena of confrontation and armed conflicts. The Soviet Union firmly opposes the extension of the arms race to outer space. It has submitted for the consideration of the United Nations a whole set of far-reaching proposals on concrete measures designed to ensure the peaceful uses of outer space.

TASS PREVIEWS NATO 'ANCHOR EXPRESS-86' MANEUVERS

LD131619 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

"Anchor Express-86" is the codename of big NATO exercises which are to begin on February 15. As was reported in Brussels by an official representative of the headquarters of the supreme allied commander Europe. The exercises will be held on the territory of northern Norway -- on its land, in its airspace and coastal waters.

Northern Europe will again become for a whole month an arena of big NATO military exercises. More than 20,000 men of land forces, airforce and navy of eight NATO member countries -- the United States, Britain, Canada, West Germany, Norway, Italy, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, supported by a great number of combatant ships, planes, tanks, artillery and other military equipment, will test, in accordance with plans of the NATO headquarters, cooperation between units of all armed services, cope with tasks of transportation of NATO reinforcements -- the NATO mobile force -- to Norway's northern areas.

The provocative character of the NATO exercises is obvious. It is not at all accidental that they are to be held in direct proximity of the USSR's and frontiers, its sea and air communications. The NATO strategists also took much care to create a "favorable", as they understand, atmosphere around the exercises, an atmosphere of anti-Soviet hysteria.

NATO General Secretary Lord Carrington, who visited Scandinavia only recently, was expanding on the "decisive significance of NATO's northern flank", that is Norway and Denmark, for the whole of the North Atlantic bloc. He did not fail to reiterate, as was reported by the Swedish Telegraph Bureau TT, the hackneyed version on a "Soviet threat", on a " tantial rise in the might of the Soviet naval forces in the north", on "conspicuous superiority of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation."

Then came the visit of the Supreme allied commander Europe American General Bernard Rogers, who speaking in Oslo, even more exaggerated a "Soviet threat", which allegedly hangs over the Northern Europe. He prompted the "only way out" -- to increase military appropriations of NATO northern allies, Norway and Denmark.

The REUTER news agency cites him as saying that without that NATO will not be able to send its reinforcements to Scandinavia in case of a "crisis situation" there. Building up ideas of NATO solidarity and common military-strategic interests, General Bernard Rogers went as far as deeming it appropriate to bracket NATO countries Norway and Denmark with the neutral states of Sweden and Finland. According to him, NATO is annoyed with the reduction in military expenditures of Sweden in the past six years, which allegedly prevents the Swedish Armed Forces from discharging their task. On behalf of NATO he called upon Sweden and Finland to keep military expenditures at a level that would enable them to "deter an attack" on their territory.

Everything is ready for the "Anchor Express" exercises, everything has been taken into account and planned -- the troops of allied states have got prepared to "repel a Soviet attack". The NATO strategists are unwilling to heed only one thing -- that the absolute majority of the population of the north want to see their countries free from nuclear weapons, from foreign troops, from foreign military bases. The Norwegians, Danes, Swedes and Finns see the guarantees of security of the north of Europe in peace and goodneighborliness, rather than in continuation of the arms race.

EUROPE-U.S. 'DISSENT' ON ARMS TALKS CITED

LD131841 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] London, 13 Feb (TASS) -- A session of the NATO Council at ambassador level -- permament representatives took place on 12 February in Brussels under conditions of strict secrecy. P. Nitze, the special adviser on arms reduction talks to the U.S. President and secretary of state took part in the council's work.

According to REUTER, the representatives of the member countries expressed to Nitze "mixed feelings in connection with the United States proposed reply to the plan of the Soviet leader, M.S. Gorbachev, to eliminate nuclear weapons stage-by-stage by the year 2000."

The news agency report from Brussels goes on to say that, according to the participants in the session, Nitze stated to the council that Washington would not agree to the Soviet demand that the French and British nuclear arsenals be frozen and that the deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in other countries be banned. He also defended the principle of "globalism" in the solution of the problem of medium-range nuclear weapons, by means of which the United States is attempting to block the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe.

A press conference given by A. Holmes, a State Department specialist on medium-range missiles, which had been planned for immediately after the NATO Council session, was cancelled at the very last moment for considerations of secrecy. Instead of this, Holmes made a short statement saying: "As President Reagan has already said, the United States will not adopt final decisions until the completion of discussions with its allies. The NATO members have confirmed their support for the appeal by U.S. President Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which was contained in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement of 21 November 1985, to strive for the most rapid progress in those areas where there are common points of contact, including in medium-range nuclear weapons."

Later, Nitze flew to Washington to report to Reagan on the results of his trip, along with E. Rowny, the other adviser on arms reduction talks to the President and the secretary of state who was engaged in taking U.S. allies in Asia to task.

The British GUARDIAN writes in this connection:

"The North-Atlantic bloc NATO has hidden itself behind the wall of silence, after top-level consultations were held between the allies in respect of the recent moves in the field of the Soviet-U.S. talks on arms control. The suddent cancellation of the planned press conference has given rise to rumors of disagreement between the United States and European countries on the issue of strategy at the talks. However, circles close to the NATO meeting have denied the reports of dissent."

OBSERVER CONSIDERS NEED FOR ASIAN SECURITY

PM131057 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 Feb 86 p 3

[Article by own international observer M. Nepesov: "Asia -- Peace and Stability"]

[Excerpt] It can be said without exaggeration that throughout the postwar period problems of peace and security have been posed and continue to be posed more acutely on the Asian Continent than on any other. Wars of liberation, in which foreign colonialists have spilled much Asian peoples' blood, have been waged in various regions there since 1945. Overseas, imperialists launched wars of extermination in Asia against the populations of Vietnam, Korea, Cambodia, and Laos, using chemical and bacteriological weapons. Many arduous conflicts have been caused by local reaction backed by imperialist circles. Everyone can see the present complex situation surrounding Democratic Afghanistan, which is being attacked from Pakistani territory by dushmans armed and trained with U.S. CIA money.

And finally, the greatest danger, the thermonuclear danger. Large stocks of nuclear arms have been stockpiled in the Asian and Pacific region today -- arms which threaten every country not only there but elsewhere. Moreover, it is precisely in Asia that one finds the areas of greatest concentration of nuclear weapons, like South Korea, for example. The density of nuclear munitions sited there is four times greater than in any NATO country. Nowhere in the world are there more nuclear mines than along the 38th parallel bisecting the Korean peninsula. Moreover, according to press figures, there are 56 neutron bombs in South Korea. Altogether there are more than 1,000 nuclear weapons of various sorts concentrated there.

It is possible to name other points on Asian countries' territory where nuclear death also lurks. These include Clark Field air base and Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines and the giant base on Diego Garcia atoll -- which can accommodate SSBN's and B-52 strategic bombers carrying nuclear weapons.

The atoll, which is crammed with lethal devices, is located right in the middle of the Indian Ocean, whose waters are constantly patrolled by warships armed with cruise missiles carrying nuclear warheads.

As everyone is well aware, these military bases and nuclear arsenals situated on land, at sea, and under the sea belong to the Pentagon. But the question is: What was America's aim in siting these means of mass destruction on others' territory, many thousands of miles from its own shores? The first answer is obvious: The nuclear weapons are primarily targeted at the Soviet Union. After all, the flight time of U.S. missiles and fighter-bombers to the Soviet Union from certain Asian countries is roughly the same as from the West European states where U.S. first-strike missiles have been sited. The second answer is also evident: Some people in Washington would like to maintain a number of Asian states, especially the "recalcitrant" ones, in their nuclear sights. It is no secret that U.S. generals planned at one time to deliver atomic strikes against the DPRK and the PRC, and President Nixon even considered the possibility of using nuclear weapons during the 1971 Indian-Pakistani military conflict.

Of course, such a "prospect" in no way suits the Asian peoples. The Soviet program for eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of the present millennium is what harmonizes with their mood. It is understandable therefore that, as soon as the news of M.S. Gorbachev's statement reached Delhi, R. Gandhi, chairman of the Nonaligned Movement and prime minister of India, said: "The CPSU Central Committee General Secretary's statement is very heartening... The program proposed by the Soviet Union is an alternative to nuclear arms in outer space. The document marks the way to freeing the world of nuclear weapons."

The Soviet Union has repeatedly put forward specific initiatives aimed at strengthening Asian security. Last year our country put forward a new proposal on striving for a comprehensive approach to the problem of security in Asia and uniting the efforts of Asian states in that direction. It envisages holding both bilateral and multilateral talks and consultations. The recent official visit to Japan by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and his subsequent official friendly visits to the DPRK and Mongolia were graphic confirmation of the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy. The organization of a pan-Asian forum for the exchange of opinions and a joint search for constructive solutions is possible in the future.

It goes without saying that it is very important for all the Asian countries to jointly elaborate measures ensuring peace and stability in the region. Particularly because some considerable experience has already been built up in this matter. It is sufficient to recall the Panch Shila -- the five principles on which interstate relations should be based, namely: mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty; nonaggression; noninterference in each other's internal affairs; equality and mutual benefit; and peaceful coexistence. In addition to these principles, the famous Bandung Conference also made important decisions whose consistent implementation would undoubtedly improve the atmosphere on the continent.

How much healthier the atmosphere in Asia would be if the DPRK's proposals on the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the south of the peninsula and the country's unification on peaceful, democratic principles without outside interference were implemented, or the proposals from India and a number of other states on turning the Indian Ocean into a zone free of nuclear weapons were carried out! The commitment by the two nuclear states on the continent -- the USSR and the PRC -- not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is an important factor in strengthening peace and stability in Asia. However, the implementation of the Soviet program formulated in M.S. Gorbachev's statement would represent the most fundamental solution to that problem. It would radically change the atmosphere on the continent, deliver the peoples in that part of the globe from the fear of a nuclear and chemical threat, and raise security in the region to a qualitatively new level.

It is important to stress here that the Soviet people regard the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century as a contribution to the search, in conjunction with all the countries of Asia, for a common, comprehensive approach to forging a system for security and lasting peace on that continent.

PYZHKOV MESSAGE TO ASIAN BUDDHIST PEACE FORUM

PM121755 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] To the participants in the Seventh General Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace":

On behalf of the Soviet Government I cordially greet the participants in the 7th General Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace.

Your organization represents a broad Buddhist movement on the Asian Continent for prevention of war, consolidation of peace in Asia and the entire world. A real threat of a world nuclear catastrophe now hangs over mankind. This threat is growing with every new twist in the arms spiral and the forces hostile to peace are nurturing ominous plans of space militarization and "star wars" and are kindling seats of war conflicts in different parts of the world. The people of most different races and nationalities, ideological views and world outlook are therefore now pooling their efforts for peace.

The Soviet State, true as it is to the Leninist peace policy, is doing its utmost to prevent a new world war. We promised the whole world that we shall never be the first to use nuclear weapons and that we shall not use outer space for military purposes. The recently published statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee contains a new peace program of historical significance. The USSR proposed that before the end of this century nuclear and chemical weapons be fully eliminated and that other weapons of mass destruction be banned. The Soviet Union extended its moratorium, introduced on 6 August 1985, on all types of nuclear tests in the hope that the United States and other nuclear powers will follow suit.

As one of the biggest Asian states, the Soviet Union is paying priority attention to ensuring security in Asia. We are known to have proposed to carry out a comprehensive approach to that problem and for that sake, to pool the efforts of all Asian states up to the holding of an all-Asia forum in the future.

We appraise the constructive peace initiatives of other Asian countries on their merits, we comprehensively support the idea that the Indian Ocean should become a peace zone, the idea of proclaiming the southern part of the Pacific a nuclear-free zone and the proposal that such a zone be formed in Southeast Asia. It is also important internationally that the two very big [obe krupneyshiye] nuclear powers on the Asian Continent -- the USSR and the People's Republic of China -- undertook the obligation not to be the first to use clear weapons.

Each measure involving reduction of armaments is bound not only to give peoples greater security but will make it possible to allocate more money to deal with famine and diseases, poverty and backwardness.

The Soviet Government highly appraises activities of religious organisations for peace and disarmament and their tireless efforts to draw broad masses of believers into the antiwar movement.

I wish the participants in your conference success in these noble activities.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

NOTES EXCHANGED ON RESUMPTION OF U.S. AIR LINKS

LD132217 Moscow TASS in English 2207 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Washington February 14 TASS -- The USSR's ambassador to the United States, Anatoliy Dobrynin, and the acting secretary of state of the United States, John Whitehead, on Thursday exchanged diplomatic notes on the entry into force of the Soviet-American agreement on the resumption from April 29, 1986 of direct regular air links between the Soviet Union and the United States.

In line with the agreement, Aeroflot planes will carry out regular flights to Washington and New York, while planes of the American airline Pan American will fly to Moscow and Leningrad.

REAGAN THANKS GORBACHEV FOR SHUTTLE CONDOLENCES

LD141143 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1132 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Feb. (TASS) -- In a letter addressed to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, U.S. President Ronald Reagan expressed thanks for the condolences on the death of the crew of the Challenger space shuttle. As the President notes, the American astronauts gave their lives in order to expand mankind's horizons, and their courage will serve the cause of research into space.

FURTHER REPORTS ON U.S. EXERCISES OFF LIBYA

3d Carrier To Join Maneuvers

LD131954 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 13 TASS -- The U.S. aircraft carrier America will leave its home port two weeks before schedule to join the carriers Saratoga and Coral Sea in the Mediterranean by mid-March, according to an official announcement made here.

UPI news agency reports that the America will join the U.S. battle group in the Mediterranean at a time of the biggest naval exercises in the region in the past 16 months.

The United States has been flaunting its naval force in direct proximity to the coasts of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for two weeks now. The armada of U.S. warships, including the aircraft carriers, poses a direct threat to Libyan security.

The world public denounces the provocative American undertaking aimed at intimidating the Libyan people and forcing Libya to give up its irreconcilable position with regard to aggressive machinations by American imperialism and Israeli Zionism in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

By sending new American warships into the region, the United States intends to keep its 6th Fleet ready for a direct armed invasion of Libyan territory.

Preparing for 'Aggression'

PM131639 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent V. Peresada: "Militarist Intrigue"]

[Text] Cairo, 12 Feb -- The U.S. military has begun new naval and air maneuvers today in the south Mediterranean. Like previous shows staged here 2 weeks ago, they are being held in the immediate vicinity of Libya's shores and are directed against that sovereignng country. The United States' present anti-Libyan action is distinguished by its unprecedented dimensions and by the increased aggressiveness of its organizers. Over 20 warships of the U.S. 6th Fleet are taking part in the maneuvers, including two shock groupings headed by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and Saratoga. They are soon to be joined by the aircraft carrier America with an escort detachment. According to a Pentagon spokesman, the zone of the maneuvers could extend to the Gulf of Sidra which, as is well known, Libya regards as part of its territorial waters. According to recent reports, U.S. carrier-based aircraft have been given the order to "immediately invade" the air corridors used by Libyan civil aircraft.

The Libyan newspaper AL-FAJR AL-JADID writes that under these conditions Washington could provoke any incident in order to unleash aggression against Libya. That preparation for aggression is under way is borne out in particular by the following fact. Throughout the last three months the U.S. Navy aircraft have been rehearsing bombing strikes on a special testing range in the Negev Desert. Tens of aircraft took part in the training operations coming from aircraft carriers now in the south Mediterranean.

The United States' constant militarist intrigues around Libya are causing anger and indignation in the Arab world. The governments, political parties, and public organizations of the majority of Arab states are stating their solidarity with that country.

"The military maneuvers and other U.S. anti-Libyan onslaughts are nothing but terrorism promoted to the rank of state policy," H. Muhyi al-Din, general secretary of Egypt's National Progressive Unionist Party, says. "This policy has already been manifested repeatedly both in the Near East and in other regions where U.S. imperialism is trying to implant its diktat. Today Washington's sights are turned on an Arab country that is our neighbor. In resolutely denouncing the aggressive U.S. course, the Egyptian people, like other Arab peoples, demand: 'Hands off Libya!'"

SHULTZ, LATIN AMERICAN MINISTERS MEETING VIEWED

PM131521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by Andrey Tolkunov under the rubric "Commentator's Column": "They Have Brushed It Aside..."]

[Text] New York -- The meeting between U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz and the foreign ministers of Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Panama has just ended in Washington. The ministers again advocated a peaceful settlement in the Central American region, including the halting of U.S. military interference there and its support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary terrorists.

The "Eight," according to Peruvian Foreign Minister Alan Wagner, tried to persuade official Washington to proceed along this, the only sensible path. "We believe this proposal to be a balanced one which takes into account the interests of all sides." Argentine Minister of Foreign Relations and Worship D. Caputo noted, stressing that this proposal is supported by the Latin American countries. The ministers of the eight countries suggested resuming the talks between the United States and Nicaragua broken off last year at Washington's initiative.

But instead of a constructive response to this new initiative G. Shultz tried yet again to justify the United States' overt and concealed interference in the affairs of the countries of Central America and above all Nicaragua. These statements by the secretary of state were as it were an accompaniment to the request sent to Congress by the White House for the next fiscal year for an appropriation of up to $100 million to support the Nicaraguan "contras." Of these at least $60 million will go to purchase arms.

These actions fit into the framework of the doctrine which is aimed at overthrowing governments inconvenient to Washington. U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT reports that, having taken this doctrine as a guideline to action, the Washington administration also intends to demand from Congress the expansion of military supplies to the Afghan, Cambodian, and Angolan rebels.

The financing of criminal groupings, economic blockade, the weaving of plots, and gross military-political pressure -- those are the tools of Washington's new doctrine aimed against states which have dared to oppose U.S. diktat.

Having brushed aside the Latin American countries' present initiative, Washington has once more demonstrated its reluctance to promote the elimination of the seat of tension in Central America on the basis of the principles of noninterference, and respect for states' sovereignty and territorial integrity. The course steered by the United States toward fueling the crisis fundamentally contradicts the aspirations of the Central American peoples and the widely publicized assurances of the Washington politicians themselves about their "desire" for a political settlement of regional conflicts.

REAGAN'S 'NEOGLOBALISM' MARKED BY 'INTERVENTION'

LD131955 Moscow TASS in English 1917 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow February 13 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov.

In his recent "Agenda for the Future" address U.S. President Ronald Reagan reiterated the readiness of the United States to contribute to the settlement of wars through negotiations. In the same document he proclaimed that democratic nations of Central America needed U.S. assistance.

Washington was offered a chance to back that readiness with its practical actions, to assist effectively a peaceful settlement of the situation in that region. At the just-ended meeting with the U.S. secretary of state in Washington ministers from eight Latin American countries -- Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay and Panama -- put forward another proposal on a peaceful settlement in the Central American region, including the termination of U.S. military intervention there and the end to support for Nicaraguan "contras".

As was the case more than once before that, Washington waved away that proposal that is supported not only by Latin American countries, but other states, including Common Market nations and Japan, as well. Moreover, the U.S. secretary of state tried yet another time to justify overt and covert U.S. intervention in the affairs of Central American countries, Nicaragua first and foremost.

Somewhat earlier the U.S. Administration had been given yet another invitation to contribute to the settlement through negotiations in another part of the world. That time the proposal had come from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea -- not to hold large-scale military exercises in the Korean peninsula and around it and, in doing so, to promote the lessening of tensions in that region, to conduct dialogue between the North and the South on improving bilateral relations and on a peaceful reunification of the country. And still Washington had rejected that reasonable proposal coming in line with the spirit of Geneva and had given the green light to large-scale military maneuvers, Team Spirit-86, which constitute a direct threat to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other peaceful states and undermine security in the Asian and Pacific region.

The reluctance to reckon with the vital interests of other states, to take due account of the aspirations of other peoples evidently became an inseparable part of the policy pursued by the Washington Administration -- the policy that is called "neoglobalism". It is underlied not by the striving for settlement, but by a deliberate cultivation of conflicts, not by assistance, but by direct intervention, right down to armed intervention, in the affairs of sovereign states. This is what follows from Washington's concrete actions toward Nicaragua and Angola, Afghanistan and Kampuchea, as well as other states.

In the Mediterranean the United States staged an act against the Libyan Jamahiriya. This move has no precedent as regards its scale and is aggressive in essence. Warplanes based on the aircraft carriers that were ordered to sail to the coast of that country are to try and provoke an incident which could serve as a pretext for an American aggression or an American-Israeli aggression against Libya. According to reports from Haiti, the United States is prepared for a direct armed aggression if it fails to stifle with the help of backstage scheming the process of democratization that is long due in that country. In connection with the presidential election in the Philippines, a Washington correspondent of the London-based DAILY NEWS writes, the question arose concerning the scale of direct military intervention in that country. An armada of ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet led by the aircraft carrier Enterprise is stationed there. Further, there are about 50,000 U.S. servicemen ready to protect the "vital interests" of the United States in that country if the trends of domestic developments there do not suit Washington.

Such is the unsavory image of "neoglobalism". Such is the readiness of the U.S. Administration to contribute to the "settlement" of regional problems and to render "assistance to democratic nations."

REAGAN SEEKS 'DIRECT CONTROL' OVER MANILA

LD140544 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The White House is concerned about the possibility of an explosion in the confrontation in the Philippines betweeen Marcos and Aquino supporters. Moreover, the U.S. Administration is worried about the future of U.S. bases and military facilities, in particular, of such gigantic facilities as Clark Field and Subic Bay. In order to exercise direct control over the domestic political situation in the Philippines, Reagan has decided to send his personal representative Habib to Manila. As the Washington correspondent of the newspaper YOMIURI points out, Habib's mission is aimed at achieving a compromise between the government and the opposition.

SOVIET, IRANIAN OFFICIALS ADDRESS MOSCOW MEETING

NC121747 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] As we told you in a previous broadcast, a meeting was held in Moscow's Hall of Friendship on the 7th anniversary of the Iranian revolution. The affair was hosted by the Presidium of the Soviet Soci[illegible]y for Cultural Ties With Iran. Employees of the Soviet Foreign Ministry and the [illegible]ate Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Moscow University professors, journalists, and students from the University of Asian and African Nations were among the state and social dignitaries attending at the invitation of the Presidium. Representatives of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran were also present.

Daniel Komisarov, a professor at the Orientology Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and deputy chairman of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, opened the reception, saying: As a result of the mass popular movement that included representatives of all strata, despite their social and national beliefs, the despotic shah was overthrown in Iran 7 years ago. The Iranian people paid a high price for their victory. Tens of thousands of young Iranians were killed by the shah's executioners, who were armed to the teeth with foreign weapons, the majority of which came from the United States. The Iranian revolution of 1979 dealt a palpable blow to U.S. imperialism, which had been the shah's mentor and had plundered Iran's national wealth, imposing a foreign culture and way of life on the Iranians. The Soviet people expressed their happiness at the Iranian revolution and strongly condemned imperialist plans to stifle it. The Soviet Government's serious warning on the impermissibility of interference in Iran's domestic affairs, which came at a sensitive time when Iran faced an economic siege and the threat of U.S. military intervention, was heard around the world.

Boris (Diev), a senior official from the Soviet Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, examined Soviet-Iranian relations at the reception. He said: The Soviet public, which takes part in the activities of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, truly believes that the Soviet and Iranian peoples have numerous problems and duties in common. The struggle to achieve peace and overcome the threat of nuclear war is the most important of these. Our relations include discussions, meetings, contacts, exchanges of views and ideas, and a growing familiarization with the cultural values of both countries. The Soviet public welcomed the recent visit to Iran by Georgiy Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, which featured meetings with leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran and discussions of various problems of mutual interest.

Boris (Diev) gave a detailed account of Soviet-Iranian economic relations and cooperation in the field of ferrous metallurgy. He noted: We have provided technical and economic assistance to Iran in the construction of steel plants since 1966. The USSR did the designing, delivered technical equipment and various materials, sent groups of experts to Iran, and set up centers to train Iranians in our country's schools and factories. With technical assistance from the Soviet Union, Iranian companies completed the first stage in the construction of the Esfahan Steel Mill, which had an annual output of 550,000 tons and became operational in 1973. In September 1974, its rate of production and output reached the planned level, and since (?1983) has been at 1.9 million tons a year. Once the construction of the steel rolling mills is completed in the near future, the Esfahan steel plant will be the largest of its type, and will be the basis for development and progress in other branches of Iran's economy.

Mahmud Sadri, a representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Moscow, delivered a brief reply, saying:

[Begin recording] In the name of God Almighty: I would like to thank all those present, as well as the officials of this friendship society, and I hope that this organization will become a link in the chain of relations among states and especially those ties between the Iranian and Soviet nations. One of the achievements of our revolution and one of the special characteristics of Iran's Islamic Revolution is the great importance we attach to relations among nations. Our relations with the Soviet state are of special importance due to its anti-imperialist solidarity. Again, I offer deep thanks to the officials of this friendship society on my own behalf and on behalf of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [end recording]

A film on an Iranian tale entitled "Voyage on the (?Indus)" was also shown at the reception, and was warmly received by the audience.

ARISTOV, DRA OFFICIAL COMMENT ON TRADE AGREEMENT

LD131559 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- Trade turnover between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will grow by 30 per cent. This is envisaged by a five-year trade agreement that was signed here today by the USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov and the Minister of Trade of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Khan Jalalar.

Under the agreement the Soviet Union will supply Afghanistan with transport and agricultural equipment, raw materials, fuel, some farm products and foodstuffs while Afghanistan will export to the Soviet Union farm produce. Some types of raw materials and consumer goods.

"The trade ties between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are developing on the basis of long-term agreements since 1976", Boris Aristov said during the signing ceremony. "Their successful fulfillment creates a sound basis for the implementation of the third such agreement that was signed today. The volume of bilateral trade has almost trebled during the past five years."

"Cooperation with the Soviet Union within the framework of the new agreemnt is an important condition of the fulfiliment of Afghanistan's economic development plans in the period till the year 1990," a TASS correspondent was told by Muhammed Khan Jalalar. "The USSR is my country's main trade partner and accounts for almost two thirds of its foreign trade", the minister stressed.

"The new agreement creates a basis for the development both of the states and the private sectors of Afghanistan's economy", Muhammad Khan Jalalar noted. "For example, up to 90 per cent of the export of raw materials and farm produce to the Soviet Union will be by private firms. The deliveries of Soviet consumer goods under the new agreement will help meet more fully the population's requirements and have a stabilizing influence on retail prices in the country," the Afghan minister of trade said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA PROFILES DRA POLITICAL OFFICER

PM101615 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Feb 86 First Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Guards Senior Lieutenant A. Punko and Major A. Oliynik article: "Words Are His Weapons"]

[Text] An all-Afghan conference of ideological workers was held in Kabul recently. Our story is about one of its participants -- a political officer who is waging an uncompromising battle to win over his deceived and scared countrymen who have become imperialist hirelings.

The Charikar Valley looked purple in the sunset. The gusty Afghan wind carried the sounds of a distant battle. Senior Captain (Ikram Kamal) had brought a broadcasting station here. The vehicle stopped at the combat lines of an Afghan Army infantry battalion.

(Kamal) introduced himself to the subunit commander, "I am the presenter of the 'Feat of the Revolution' radio program. I request that you temporarily cease fire..."

The broadcasting station moved forward behind the cover of a destroyed mud wall. (Kamal) switched on the recorder and the speakers played a song which each Afghan knows and loves. It was sung by the well-known singer (Maskhur Jamal).

The dushman shooting stopped. Would it be for long? (Kamal) tool the microphone. In a slightly hoarse voice he started saying:

"Brothers! The fields await your hands; the vines await your hands. Against whom have you taken up arms? Against your starving children and mothers who cannot remove their black shawls or stop crying over the killed and tortured."

The quiet over the battlefield grew more intense and tangible and then gunfire and mortar shelling suddenly broke out -- one of the dushman ringleaders had realized that it was necessary to immediately stop the broadcast. But (Kamal's) impassioned voice that had caused the fire did not fall silent. Boosted by the powerful radio speakers, it grew louder, drowning out the din. Like heavy shelling, his voice filtered through the walls of the old fortress where the dushmans were holed up.

The shelling intensified and more and more shrapnel hit the truck's armor plating. But (Kamal) kept on talking angrily and passionately. His words rang out like an alarm over the battlefield. They filled the Afghan servicemen who were rushing into the attack, with combat enthusiasm. Those words were undoubtedly in the soldiers' hearts when they tore forward under heavy machinegun fire and, breaking through the breaches in the walls of the old fortress, enaged in hand-to-hand fighting...

The large dushman gang was routed, most of them laid down their weapons and gave themselves up. It was not just the accurate shooting of the Afghan servicemen that had led to victory in the battle. The words of truth that the fearless propagandist and agitation worker Senior Capt (Kamal) had implanted in the minds of the deceived and scared people were also components in the victory.

There are many such episodes in the combat biography of Senior Capt (Kamal), who was recently awarded the Star Order 3d Class. He was born in Herat. Some 13 of his 29 years have been devoted to the revolution. As a 17-year-old he became a PDPA member, worked on the party newspaper in the city of Balkh, and studied at the journalism faculty.

Now (Kamal) is chief of the Afghan Army Main Political Directorate Radio Propaganda Section and the presenter of "Feat of the Revolution" -- a program which is popular with soldiers. The broadcasts often feature impassioned poetry about the revolution. The author is also (Ikram Kamal).

"Senior Capt (Kamal) is an excellent propaganda worker," Colonel Abdul Wahed, his immediate superior, told us. "He has presented hundreds of radio broadcasts in regions of combat operations, and, when necessary, put down his microphone and roused the men to the attack..."

An event happened in Senior Capt (Ikram Kamal's) life about which people still talk. We were told about it at the PDPA provincial committee in Sheberghan City.

The group of (Gafur), nicknamed ("Pakhlavan"), numbered 1,500 people. It operated in Jowzjan Province in northern Afghanistan. When Senior Capt (Kamal) went to work there it was explained to him at the district PDPA committee that (Gafur) behaves strangely -- he neither steals nor kills. But at the same time he does not permit representatives of the authorities onto land controlled by his group.

(Kamal) set to thinking about how to disarm the (Gafur) group or even better -- how to win him over to the people's power. He managed to discover that (Gafur) grew up in a poor family. He had worked for feudal lords all his life. Now he could not fail to see that the people's power had done a great deal to improve the peasants' lives. Several schools had been built with the help of Soviet servicemen in Jowzjan Province; there are free handouts in the villages of the grain, salt, and other products that are needed; medical aid is provided... A simple man's soul could not fail to sense that the people's power is doing the people good. Was not that the source of (Gafur's) strange behavior?

(Kamal's) broadcasting station traveled virtually the entire province. (Ikram) broadcast dozens of radio programs and talked to hundreds of villages, many from (Gafur's) gang. And he obtained his objective.

One night a stone wrapped in paper was thrown over the wall into the yard of the house where (Kamal) was staying. It was a note to (Kamal) proposing a morning meeting at a croosroads. It was signed ("Pakhlavan").

(Kamal) set out at dawn. He saw a man's outline while still at a distance. Enormously tall, with a black beard and massive suburnt features, the man put his hand on his heart and gave a small bow.

"I am (Gafur), alias ('Pakhlavan')," (Kamal) heard. "I want to ask your advice, comrade..."

The conversation lasted a long time. And soon after this meeting (Gafur) was commanding a self-defense detachment and rebuffing the dushman gangs.

Senior Capt (Kamal) has a cherished dream -- to go to study in the Soviet Union. But he has not yet managed to make it reality.

"I have been putting off my studies for 7 years now," (Ikram) said. "My place is here for the time being, where we are battling the counterrevolution. I will study later, when the sound of shooting is over in my country and the blood of my compatriots has stopped flowing."

PRESIDENT MARCOS MAINTAINS LEAD OVER AQUINO

LD140005 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The Philippine national electoral commission has published unofficial details of the tally in the presidential election held on 7 February. Marcos, the present head of state, remains in the lead, with 600,000 more votes than Aquino, the opposition candidate. It is being declared in Marcos' entourage that his victory is virtually assured. Western diplomatic sources in Manila are inclining to the same view, indicates YOMIURI. The Philippine opposition is drawing up plans of action should Marcos be proclaimed the winner of the election. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, opponents of the country's present president are studying a plan for forming a shadow cabinet. If it is approved, notes the newspaper, a request will be made to foreign governments to recognize Aquino as the president of the country.

LANGE CHARGES U.S. WITH 'INSULTING' NEW ZEALAND

LD111557 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Canberra February 11 TASS -- Prime Minister David Lange of New Zealand has described attacks on his country by representative of the U.S. Administration and Congress as Rambo-style actions by belligerent politicians. Speaking in Wellington, he said the United States had been repeatedly insulting his country following its ban on calls by ships with nuclear weapons aboard or nuclear propulsion systems, the New Zealand press association reported. The U.S. Administration's tough position of the independent anti-nuclear policy of New Zealand, accompanied with blackmail and threats, is resented even by a number of American law-makers. The leader of a delegation of American Democratic senators now on a visit in New Zealand, David Boren of Oklahoma, said, for instance, that high-pitched rhetoric would not solve the problem. Both Lange and the members of the senators' delegation were angered by pronouncements by U.S. Secretary of the Navy John Lehman about what he called New Zealand's outrageous conduct and remarks by the new U.S. ambassador to Australia, Laurence Lane, who said that New Zealand should be punished for what he claimed were its violations of its commitments to the ANZUS bloc.

SOVIET-VIETNAMESE FRIENDSHIP MEETING HELD

BK091712 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 9 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 9 -- A get-together was held in Moscow on February 7 by the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society in honour of Vietnam's lunar new year festival. Present were M.N. Smirnovski, deputy head of the International Commission of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee; I.B. Bernov, vice president of the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; V.V. Sutrov and Y.V. Toksuyev, vice presidents of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society; and Dinh Nho Liem, Vietnamese ambassador to the Soviet Union. Speaking on this occasion, Vice President Toksuyev affirmed the Soviet Union's wholehearted support for the Vietnamese people in national construction and defence, and for the three Indochines countries' proposals of goodwill at their ministerial foreign conference held in Vientiane recently. For his part, Ambassador Dinh Nho Liem expressed sincere thanks to the Soviet Union for its support and assistance to the Vietnamese people. He stressed the full support of the Vietnamese people for the Soviet Union's peace initiatives put forward by party leader M.S. Gorbachev in his January 15 statement.

SOVIET-PRK SUCCESSES SPARK ENEMIES' ANIMOSITY

PM031037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Article by Ye. Fadeyev: "Despite Provocation"]

[Text] Having marked the seventh anniversary of its liberation from the bloody Pol Pot clique, the PRK [People's Republic of Kampuchea] confidently continues to follow the path of its national rebirth. A great deal has been done and is still being done to restore and develop the national economy, as well as in the social and cultural spheres. The land areas sown under rice exceed 1.3 million hectares. The peasants are uniting in groups of mutual production assistance. There are now more than 100,000 such groups. The number of cattle has increased to 2 million in comparison to 1 million in 1979. The use of 26,000 hectares of hevea plantations has been resumed. In over 1 year more than 78,000 metric tons of semi-finished rubber products have been produced.

In industry, 58 enterprises and thousands of small workshops have been restored and are in operation. The number of medical workers is now more than 9,000 against 605 in 1979. As many as 95 percent of children today have the chance to learn. Trade between the PRK and the USSR, the SRV [Socialist Republic of Vietnam], and other countries has reached a volume significant for the republic.

The internal situation in the PRK has stabilized. Everywhere the interests of various strata of the population in state administration is evident. Various mass social organizations are gathering momentum.

The decisions of the recent Fifth Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party (KPRP) Congress, which adopted the first 5-year program for further restoration and comprehensive social and economic development, are renewed confirmation of loyalty to the chosen course of peaceful construction and fulfillment of the topical tasks facing the republic today.

The Cambodian revolution has grown stronger and its potential for defending its achievements with its own forces and rebuffing those who attempt to impede the process of regeneration has increased. In a word, the achievements of the young republic -- if one recalls that the country was virtually razed to the ground -- are impressive.

But it has long been observed that the more appreciable the successes of the PRK, the more animosity and hatred it arouses in its enemies.

So it is now. Enemies of the new Cambodia have stepped up their false propaganda, striving to discredit both the people's power in raising the country out of ruins and chaos and the assistance given by friends of the PRK. For example, the Chinese information media have compiled some open letters from the Cambodian people. These anonymous letters are being disseminated in the name of the infamous "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea," which has neither its own territory, nor its own population, nor its own capital. These attempts would seem laughable if they did not always pursue the same aim -- to inflate the so-called "Cambodian problem."

In this respect they do not even feel ashamed at resorting to total distortion of the situation in the PRK and to wittingly slandering the processes taking place there today in order to justify the evil and arbitrary rule or, to put it briefly, the genocide perpetrated under the government of the Pol Pot clique in Cambodia, as if jokingly, called "democratic." With this aim they do not balk at making extensive use of the myth of the "Vietnamese threat."

"Cambodia has long since become hell," the Chinese information media claim, for example.

In an attempt to justify Pol Pot's crimes and vindicate the butchers, they have even gone so far as to say that "the policy of genocide and mass destruction of the Cambodian people was carried out not by the government of democratic Cambodia, but by the Vietnamese authorities."

As if the brutal aphorism of Pol Pot, the "leader of the nation," had never existed: "One million Cambodians are sufficient for us to build a new society." The whole world knows the result of the sadistic "experiment" with "unnecessary" people: 3 million dead, 200,000 orphans, 90 percent of the intelligentsia destroyed, 207 of the 2,300 teachers left alive, more than 35,000 workers and state employees and more than 100,000 students tortured, and more than 141,000 Cambodians left as cripples and invalids for the rest of their lives.

Those leaders of the criminal genocidal regime who survived retribution sometimes came out with regrets that they did not succeed in bringing the "experiment" to its conclusion. Ieng Sary, sentenced to death in 1979 together with Pol Pot by the people's revolutionary tribunal and today walking free and paying visits to "friends," proclaims that there were mistakes, yes, but can one avoid excesses when building an unprecedented society? -- The whole problem was that we acted too slowly." He is echoed by one of the leaders of the "coalition," Khieu Samphan, who was president under Pol Pot: "If we had had enough time our efforts would have borne fruit...."

Yes, it is no accident that support for the Pol Pot followers comes from those forces which are against stabilization of the PRK's real people's power and against the rebirth of the suffering land after its concentrated holocaust and the nightmare of Pol Pot. Support for hold-outs [nedobitki] of various hues, the constant arming of Thailand, the recent allocation by the Reagan administration -- directly and openly, bypassing the CIA -- of $3.5 million for the "rebels" -- all these instances are links in the same chain of undeclared war against the PRK.

Today the U.S. Administration and Western propaganda media, which very recently called the Pol Pot followers "the most malicious violators of human rights," "obscurantists," but have now renamed them "fighters for freedom," lament for "a people who have suffered so much and who are being deprived of the possibility of preserving their existence."

Washington's hypocrisy knows no bounds! As if even before Pol Pot's darkness there were not 600,000 Khmers who perished and 2 million left dead as a result of the aggression unleashed by the Pentagon against this very nation. As if there had been no spraying of U.S. toxic chemicals which turned four-fifths of the Cambodian paddy fields and forests into a desert.

Forces hostile to the PRK, which are trying to reanimate political corpses, are unremitting in their attempts to force the situation in the region and kindle confrontation between the states of Indochina and the ASEAN countries. False propaganda about the situation inside the PRK and about its political course in its relations with neighboring Southeast Asian states is a component part of this provocative stirring. Hence the rejection of the peace-loving, constructive proposals made by Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia for forming a zone of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. Proposals recently confirmed afresh in Vientiane, at a scheduled conference of the three fraternal countries's foreign ministers. Elimination of disputes at the negotiations table, settlement of Cambodia's problems by the Cambodian people themselves without outside interference, reaching reconciliation on the basis of removal of the Pol Pot clique -- this is a realistic course leading to an improvement of the situation in the region.

"The successes of the young revolutionary power are disquieting to the enemies of the PRK, who are trying to overthrow it by various means," Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK State Council, said recently.

"These attempts are futile. Our revolution has one task: To reliably defend our national independence, restore the economy, ensure material well-being and a happy life for the people, and, at the same time, to gradually accumulate the means for building socialism in the beautiful land of Angkor. We are full of optimism and firmly believe that we will ultimately triumph."

Yes, the Cambodian problem is being solved by the Cambodian people themselves. Resolved definitively and irrevocably. And no voices or supporting voices from the other world, no intrigues or slander by enemies, no hypocritical, provocative stirring will force the Khmer people to deviate from their chosen path. Relying on assistance from their real friends, they are building a new, sovereign, independent, peaceful republic. Building it with confidence and optimism.

PRK'S HUN SEN INTERVIEWED ON PEACE PROGRAM

LD132253 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A regular session of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has ended in Phnom Penh.

The republic's leaders, Comrades Heng Samrin, Chea Sim, Hun Sen and others, and representatives of Cambodia's every province took part in the work of the supreme body of state authority in the country. They summed up the country's socioeconomic development and defined tasks for the coming year. A special place at the session was occupied by the adoption of a statement in support of the Soviet peace program.

This is what Hun Sen, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers, said in an interview:

[Begin Hun Sen recording in Cambodian fading into Russian translation] The Cambodian people, along with the entire progressive mankind, resolutely oppose nuclear war, the danger of which is being forced by the United States of America. It is necessary to end the arms race on earth and prevent its speed into space. The peace program proposed by the Soviet Union fully accomplishes this task and earns the support of all those concerned about mankind's future. [end recording]

U.S. 'EAGER' TO CONCEAL MICRONESIA 'ANNEXATION'

LD140840 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] New York February 14 TASS - A fact-finding mission from the U.N. Trusteeship Council has left for Palau to "observe" the plebiscite there on February 21 on the issue of a "free association" between that part of Micronesia and the United States. The decision to send the mission there was adopted by the majority of Western countries in the council, rubber-stamping a proposal made by the United States which is eager to cover up in this way Micronesia's annexation.

These maneuvers have caused indignation among the international public protesting the perpetuation of Micronesia's effectively colonial status and its position as a U.S. strategic military base in the Pacific at a time when anti-nuclear sentiments are mounting in the region.

YUGOSLAV WAR CRIMINAL RETURNS TO SFRY FROM U.S.

LD140022 Moscow TASS in English 2358 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 14 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Chèkhonin:

Justice has finally triumphed, TANJUG News Agency has stressed in its report that Yugoslav war criminal Andrija Artukovic, whose hands are stained with the blood of anti-fascists, has been brought to Belgrade from the United States.

Artukovic lived in the United States since 1951. Way back at that time, the Yugoslav Government demanded the immediate extradition of the "Croatian Himmler", the nickname he got for particular brutality, to face trial.

Washington rejected the legitimate demand. And it made the reply only eight years after the request, and despite the fact that the Yugoslav documents enumerated 1,239 cases of the killings of civilians on the direct order from Artukovic who served as "interior minister" in the puppet government of traitor Pavelic.

Only several years ago, bowing to world public pressure, the U.S. authorities launched an inquiry into the Artukovic case. The court passed a verdict of guilty. But the execution of the sentence was postponed. This was due to the fact that the Nazi criminal served for a long time at the Central Intelligence Agency as "expert on East European countries." The "Croatian Himmler" will now face trial in Yugoslavia.

But what about other war criminals from other countries who found shelter in the United States after the war? According to American press reports, they number about ten thousand. Well-known lawyer John Loftus, in his book "The Belarus Secret", reveals that the U.S. State Department used after the war the services of at least four thousand Nazi criminals members of SS-units who took part in massacres of civilians in the cities of Minsk, Smolensk and Vitebsk. How many more Nazi criminals enjoyed patronage of the American authorities?

What is the reason for the strange connivance on the part of the American authorities? Practically all American intelligence services, including the Policy Coordination Department, Loftus stresses in his book, used former Nazi emigrants for espionage in Europe during the cold war period. They were also used in ideological subversive operations against the USSR and other socialist countries.

Those who killed, destroyed, raped and burnt now act in the United States as advocates of "human rights" and are actively engaged in other anti-Soviet campaigns. Vasily "Bazil" Artyushenko who personally gunned down forty Soviet citizens is still hiding in the United States. Irrefutable evidence on Artyushenko was handed over to the American judiciary way back in 1978. But no information was supplied on the decision taken by them. No reply came to the notes by the Soviet Foreign Ministry raising the issue of the extradition to the Soviet authorities of Bolislav Maiskovkis. He took part in several mass excutions of Soviet citizens, and was in charge of a punitive operation in which about 300 inhabitants of the village of Audrini were killed.

The matter is not apparently reduced to the criminals' services to the CIA. The Washington crusaders who want to aggravate the international situation and spiral the arms race need these people. They keep betting on the Hitlerite butchers in subversive actions against socialist countries. Washington needs them as pawns in its dirty anti-Soviet game.

CSSR FOREIGN MINISTER ON GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

PM121525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek: "A Chance That Must Not Be Missed"]

[Text] Prague, 10 Feb -- The Czechoslovak public, just like people of goodwill in all countries and continents, welcomes the USSR's far-reaching new peace initiatives on nuclear disarmament. We regard them as pivotal to the solution of the most burning problems concerning all mankind, to the choice between peace and war, detente and confrontation. The people of Czechoslovakia, a country located in such an important region as central Europe, fully support the voice of reason and wise statesmanship which again rang out from Moscow.

Yes, Czechoslovakia welcomes and supports the policy of good example, as demonstrated with particular clarity in the extraordinarily important program for nuclear disarmament through the year 2000. The CSSR regards it as a clear and unequivocal answer to the categorical demand of the epoch. The resolution of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the CSSR Government on the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, notes that it is a package of new proposals expressing the immutable peaceable essence of the Soviet Union's policy. These generally comprehensible and profoundly humane proposals testify to the highest measure of responsibility for the future of the human civilization.

The Soviet Union has submitted to the world, and primarily to the United States, a universal disarmament project based on the principle of equal security of the sides. It is a concretization of the clear and consistent line of the CPSU as proclaimed at the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and developed in the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program. We share the view which represents the philosophical essence of this document, namely, no matter how great a threat to peace is posed by the aggressive imperialist circles, world war is not fatally inevitable. It is still possible to avert it and to save mankind from catastrophe. In this lies the historic mission of socialism and of all the progressive, peace-loving forces of the world.

We understand the new Soviet initiatives contained in M.S. Gorbachev's statement of 15 January this year as a scientifically substantiated master plan for a step-by-step solution -- in three stages -- of virtually all the key disarmament problems. These proposals make it possible to rid the world of nuclear weapons, not by means of the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative," so very dangerous and inordinately costly, but by means of eliminating existing nuclear arms, provided that both the USSR and the United States refrain from the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of space strike arms. The Soviet proposals clearly define ways and suggest specific deadlines for achieving accords.

Time does not stand still. In the prevailing situation what is needed is not just declarations of goodwill and assurances of devotion to the cause of peace, but, first and foremost, practical actions in favor of this cause. The "spirit of Geneva" will not survive unless it is revitalized with specific steps expressing its essence; it will become a phantom. We therefore highly value the fact that the USSR's new proposals are consistent with the traditions of the Leninist international policy as a decisive factor for preserving peace. They are a continuation and development of the principled line of the CPSU and the entire Soviet people to do all in their power to rid the world of the danger of nuclear death.

The significance of the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee lies in the fact that it combines mobilizing perspectives with a concrete plan for their realization. It is quite natural that this document has attracted tremendous attention and evoked a great positive response to the concrete Soviet proposals.

The statement simultaneously serves as a convincing reply to U.S. plans to launch a new round in the nuclear arms race by spreading these arms to space. The Soviet document puts forward an alternative to the "star wars" program. The USSR, as M.S. Gorbachev again confirmed in his interview to L'HUMANITE, unswervingly seeks to ensure equal security for all, by means of arms reduction and disarmament right up to the complete elimination of all types of mass destruction weapons. A legitimate question comes to mind: How is it possible to strengthen international security by creating [sozdaniye] new types of weapons and by further armament? On the contrary, a natural precondition for the elimination of nuclear weapons is the banning of space strike arms. Blocking the solution of the problem of space by implementing the "star wars" program indicates an unwillingness to end the nuclear arms race on earth.

An important factor on the path toward reducing nuclear weapons would be the adoption of the Soviet proposal for a moratorium on all nuclear explosions, which would preclude the possibility of creating [sozdavat] new generations of nuclear weapons, including space weapons. Whereas the rejection of this measure would result in a further arms buildup.

On the question of nuclear disarmament, the problem of verification [kontrol] is extraordinarily important. In the past, Western powers have used this issue quite unjustifiably to block progress in this sphere. We therefore highly value the clear confirmation of the invariable Soviet position. The USSR is no less interested in verification than all the others, and agrees to it being carried out by national as well as international technical means, including on-site inspection [v tom chisle i na meste]. But it must be a question of verification of disarmament and not of armament, as the West would have it.

The USSR's statement also gives concrete expression to other accords contained in the Soviet-U.S. joint document adopted in Geneva. It puts forward a program for the elimination of chemical weapons. It adds impetus to the advancement of the cause of the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces and the enhancement of the effectiveness and intensification of bilateral and multilateral disarmament talks. The statement also touches on other important issues Furthermore, everything the USSR proposes is in the nature of realistic and phased steps. The main thing is to show good political will to achieve progress.

Europe is to occupy a special place in the implementation of the extensive package of proposals aimed at achieving a fundamental breakthrough in favor of the policy of peace. Our continent has already set an example of a new approach to questions of peace, cooperation, and international trust. I have in mind the contribution made to detente by CSCE. On countless occasions lately we have been able to see for ourselves the viability of detente and the interest shown in reviving it. Now new impetus must be added to this process, new life must be breathed into it in all spheres and through the efforts of all its participants.

We welcome the circumstances that the USSR's counterproposals aimed at achieving progress at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe point in this same direction. The CSSR supports the proposition that it is necessary right now to reduce the numerical strength of forces taking part in large-scale land and air force exercises.

It seems that at the Vienna talks an outline of a possible solution to the reduction of Soviet and U.S. forces and the subsequent freezing of the level of Warsaw Pact and NATO armed forces in central Europe is emerging.

Czechoslovakia believes quite unequivocally that if the United States and its Western allies act as responsibly as the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, this will make it possible to improve the international situation and resolve complex international problems. We know that it is not easy to achieve this, but we are convinced that the peace policy of the Soviet Union and the entire fraternal community and the mounting efforts of peace-loving and realistically minded people throughout the world will make it possible to preserve peace for current and future generations.

Czechoslovakia will continue to play an active part in this struggle. We are prepared to spare no effort to contribute to the implementation of the new Soviet proposals so that the tremendous chance they offer mankind is taken and so that people can enter the new millennium confidently and without fear for their existence.

BCP OFFICIAL ON SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL REVOLUTION

PM111214 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by Yordan Yotov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chief editor of the newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO: "Toward New Horizons"]

[Text] I

Two months separate us, Bulgarian Communists, and all of our people from the forthcoming 13th BCP Congress. The date on which it will open -- 2 April 1986 -- was set by the January plenum of our party's Central Committee held several days ago.

Preparation for the congress in fact began with the February BCP Central Committee Plenum and is now in full swing. Two basic demands now mobilize our attention and efforts -- to soberly and accurately evaluate what has been done in the course of fulfilling the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress and to realistically map out the tasks and prospects for the country's economic, social, political, and cultural development for the 9th 5-Year Plan and, in the basic points, up to the beginning of the next century. Despite the unfavorable international conditions engendered by imperialism's actions, despite the unusual drought of the last 3 years, and thanks to our people's selfless work the social and economic tasks set by the 12th congress are being successfully fulfilled.

We can say with satisfaction that the basic line of our party's policy, which was adopted at its April plenum in 1956 -- "All in the name of man, all for the good of man" -- is being implemented actively and successfully. The good of the individual is the supreme law and criterion of development of our socialist society.

Building mature socialism poses for our party and society new demands and tasks. Their successful fulfillment demands the development of intensive and creative theoretical work to form integral coverage both of the basic problems and of practical approaches to building the developed socalist society. Our party considers this activity, implemented on the basis of Marxist-Leninist principles, to be an absolutely essential component of its historic struggle to achieve great communist ideals.

The new problems and approaches at the center of our scientific and theoretical work are set out in the Central Committee's report at the 12th BCP Congress, in lectures by Comrade Todor Zhivkov to students and lecturers at the BCP Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences and Social Administration, and in a number of his speeches and reports given at various party, social, and economic forums.

The ideas contained in them are the result of creative efforts to formulate and fulfill the decisions of the 12th congress and, at the same time, are an indivisible part of preparation for the forthcoming 13th congress. In the article brought to the attention of the Soviet reader, we deal with basic scientific and theoretical developments directly connected with the forthcoming congress. They were first developed in the materials of the BCP Central Committee February (1985) Plenum.

II

Having discussed the report by Todor Zhivkov "On Some New Views and Approaches in the Development and Implementation of Bulgarian Scientific and Technical Policy," the BCP Central Committee February Plenum established that gigantic changes have taken place in the development of productive forces and production relations, and in the sphere of the basis and superstructure. In addition to this, it noted that the effect of objective laws in the building of mature socialist society have been allowed to be underestimated. This has led to a lag in altering and improving the superstructure.

In his opening address at the plenum, the BCP Central Committee general secretary indicated the objective laws acquiring decisive significance at the present stage of socialist building.

The first and basic law is to carry out the scientific and technical revolution, on which the manifestation and development of other laws connected with successfully building mature socialism in our country depends to the greatest degree.

The second law is to improve socialist social relations, which will make it possible to create the most favorable conditions and prerequisites for developing productive forces on the basis of utilizing the latest achievements of the scientific and technical revolution.

The third law is connected with the specific effect of the cost law and the role of commodity-money relations under socialism. The specific effect of the cost law under socialism is "objective and, as historical experience shows, everyone who attempts to disregard this law or replace it with administrative measures pays dearly."

The fourth law concerns the growing role of the popular masses as the creators of history. This is demanded by the further development of socialist democracy and by the improvement of our society's political system.

The February BCP Central Committee Plenum reached the categorical conclusion that "the scientific and technical revolution is the key -- the superkey, moreover -- to our social and economic development" and that "under present conditions, carrying out a scientific and technical revolution means building a developed socialist society. Conversely, building developed socialism in our country means carrying out a scientific and technical revolution."

As a social phenomenon, the scientific and technical revolution is an objective historical process embracing all aspects of social life and all strata of the population. It has its own internal laws and trends, and they must be well mastered in order to ensure the successful development of this revolution.

One of the most important and vital laws of the scientific and technical revolution is science's increasingly full development into a productive force. From this it follows that favorable conditions must be created for the all-around development of science itself. Science would not be able to rise to the level of its historically conditioned task if it is not ensured the place it is due in the social hierarchy and if it is not freed of all kinds of factors retarding its development.

There is, however, another side to the question. The development of science is becoming increasingly directly dependent on the "hunger" for science products [nauchnaya produktsiay] that exists in society and primarily in the physical production sphere. Without this "hunger" it is impossible to historically merge the revolution in science with the revolution in technology to produce a single social process, which is the essence of the scientific and technical revolution. Consequently, the resolution of the question of turning science into a direct productive force can only be a comprehensive one and must become a matter for the whole of society.

Taking this circumstance into account, the BCP Central Committee general secretary said in his speech: "In order to open the doors wide to this law, we must make a breakthrough in the state apparatus from top to bottom, a breakthrough in the economic apparatus, a breakthrough in state planning and financing, a breakthrough in the state retooling of scientific work, and a breakthrough in the bureaucratic superstructure of the party apparatus -- a breakthrough toward science. In a word -- we need a breakthrough across the entire front."

Another important law of the scientific and technical revolution is thorough, comprehensive integration in technology development. Domination of the sector principle was characteristic of technology in the period before the scientific and technical revolution. With the explosive development of technology in the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, however, the same kind of scientific and technical solutions keep appearing, common characteristics in their substance are revealed, and their common technological base is expanding. This means that, with the development of modern technology, there is an intensive process of objective standardization and of thorough, all-embracing integration. It is important to make use of these integrational processes in the development and implementation of a unified technical policy corresponding to the requirements of the scientific and technical revolution.

The constant renewal and enrichment of production's energy and raw materials base and the introduction of new energy and material sources with preset qualities are a natural trend in the scientific and technical revolution. Using scientific achievements and the potential of modern technology allows us to create a qualitatively new raw material base and turn Bulgaria from a poor country into a country rich in raw and other materials.

Important trends of the scientific and technical revolution come to light in the sphere of educating, training, and improving executive and leadership cadres. The scientific and technical revolution is not and cannot be a matter for the administrative elite alone. It must become the business of millions of people, all the people. Hence the necessity to train specialists with great ideological, political, moral, professional, and general cultural abilities, and to raise the level of education and qualification of workers, agricultural workers, and all strata of our society.

The scientific and technical revolution manifests no less important trends in the sphere of socialist integration. Hence the need to comprehensively deepen and enrich our cooperation and integration in science and production with other socialist countries, and primarily with the Soviet Union, whose science and technology have powerful industrial and cadre potential, have achieved great success in a number of important directions, and are in the front ranks of world scientific and technical progress.

There is no more reliable and sure a guarantee of our scientific and technical front's successful development than merging it still more closely and organically with the Soviet scientific and technical front.

The recent friendly visit to our country by M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, his talks with Todor Zhivkov, and his meeting with Sofia machine builders were a new and great manifestation of socialist internationalism and also a clear manifestation of fruitful Bulgarian-Soviet friendship. The Sofia summit dialogue revealed new, still broader prospects for scientific and technical cooperation between our fraternal countries on the basis of the major achievements of scientific and technical progress.

The new edition of the CPSU Program, which will be approved at the 27th party congress, is an essential political and theoretical compass orienting Soviet society toward the highest peaks of the scientific and technical revolution, the most reliable compass in improving socialism and building communism. This exceptionally important document is a new, creative development of Marxist-Leninist theory and has international significance. For us, Bulgarian Communists, it creates a magnificent platform for fruitful, comprehensive cooperation under specific contemporary historical conditions.

Revealing the aforementioned basic laws and natural trends in the building of developed socialist society at the new stage of scientific and technical progress, the BCP stresses the necessity for a fundamental turnabout in the thinking, approaches, and actions of each and everyone.

Life demands that the goals and tasks emanating from the scientific and technical revolution form the basis of our systematic development and of our state policy. The state plan itself must become a plan for scientific and technical progress ensuring optimum conditions for the country's social and economic development.

Life demands an improvement in selective scientific strategy and in integral scientific organization so as to ensure, on the one hand, the ongoing development of priority science sectors and, on the other, to prevent laggardness in other areas of science. Particular significance in the implementation of the scientific and technical revolution at this stage is acquired by the assertion of the state and social principle in the management of science and scientific and technical progress.

The initial position and leitmotiv of our approaches and practical actions is our belief that the scientific and technical revolution has decisive significance in every sphere of our social life -- economic, political, ideological -- as well as our awareness that "without a scientific and technical revolution there can be neither 'mature' nor 'immature' socialism in Bulgaria."

III

The scientific and technical revolution is the cause of millions of working people. That is why the BCP attaches paramount importance to the role and action of democratic centralism while this revolution is being carried out.

This fundamental Leninist principle, which is indispensable in our party's theory and practice, is not and cannot be frozen and immobile. Both its content and its forms change, depending on the condition of the party and society, the stage of their development, the aims set, and the tasks they resolve.

The necessity to increasingly actively and extensively involve the working people in the development of the scientific and technical revolution obviously demands constant improvement of the correlation between centralism and democracy.

Concrete measures to further develop and apply democratic centralism in the spirit of the decisions made by the BCP Central Committee February Plenum are developing in three main directions. The principle of democratic centralism must first be made to fully correspond to the aims and tasks set by the party in the sphere of the planning and management of scientific and technical progress.

This demands, first, that radical changes be made in the practical activity of all structures, that the correlation between their rights and responsibilities be regulated, and also that their interrelations be regulated.

Second, profound changes must be made in the organization and modes of operation of scientific and economic organs and structures so that they develop into self-regulating systems. After their targets have been set and the resources for their being met have been ensured, each of them will have to have the necessary rights and responsibility to fulfill the program incumbent on it. The leading functions of the corresponding higher organs and organizations will be reflected in their supervision, monitoring, and evaluation of the results of work done. Under these conditions the correct correlation will have to be established between the two components of democratic centralism and, on this basis, socialist democracy developed, while simultaneously strengthening one-man management and centralism.

Third, the question arises of establishing new economic relations between the individual, as the basic productive force, and the means of production, between the individual and the state, and between the participants in the production process under the conditions of the scientific and technical revolution. Economic relations and mechanisms must be formed such as would create and sustain firm interests both among leaders and executors, and in leading organs and labor collectives. Achieving success in carrying out the scientific and technical revolution is inconceivable if the interests of all strata of the population are not taken into account and if the proper combination and single direction of social, collective, and individual interests is not ensured. Hence the necessity to make profound and vital changes in the current economic mechanism which will ensure consistent implementation of the socialist principle of work being remunerated according to its quantity and quality. What is more, the basic idea of the new economic mechanism demands precisely the combination and single direction of individual and social interests.

In this connection there arises a vital need to improve socialism's political system and bring it in line with the new conditions and tasks. It is essential to create forms of socialist power that will still more fully ensure the conditions and guarantees for extensive participation by the working people in the development of important decisions made by state and social organs and organizations. This will create the conditions for the comprehensive development of the people's creative initiative and for new, major achievements in building a developed socialist society on Bulgarian soil.

There is no doubt that the 13th BCP Congress will raise party thinking to a still higher level and that it will adopt the necessry scientifically substantiated and politically advisable decisions. In the course of carrying out the scientific and technical revolution, the party's creative ideas will develop and be further enriched and new theoretical conclusions and generalizations will emerge. This is because life and the practice of socialist building will set us more and more new tasks and open up broader horizons. It is also because revolutionary renewal and the people's well-being are the meaning and historical justification of the great communist cause.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP PROTOCOL SIGNED

PM131415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent O.O. Losoto: "Forty Thousand Guests"]

[Text] Warsaw, 12 Feb -- A protocol has been signed here on cooperation between the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society [TPP-R] and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society for 1986.

"This document," S. Wronski, chairman of the TPP-R, says, "provides for a number of specific measures aimed at intensifying our fraternal pcoples' collaboration and expanding cultural, scientific, and tourist exchange. A large place in the document is assigned to the propagnada of the precongress documents of the CPSU and PZPR and the new Soviet peace initiatives put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"This year about 40,000 Polish citizens are to visit the USSR through TPP-R channels. In turn Poland's recently created "Kalinka" tourist bureau will receive Soviet tourists. Exhibitions will be opened and meetings and encounters will be held to mark the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress. In 1986-1987 friendship and cooperation will be carried on at industrial enterprises. Preparation for the next Soviet song festival in Zielona Gora has been launched everywhere.

"Fraternal cooperation," S. Wronski said in conclusion, "it is guarantee of our successful headway."

ECONOMIC COOPERATION MEETING WITH FINLAND OPENS

LD140013 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1852 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Helsinki, 13 Feb (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Gorbunov reports:

A seminar devoted to development prospects in trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and Finland has been held at the House of Soviet Culture and Science here representatives of the Central Party, Finnish business circles and Soviet foreign-trade organizations took part.

Finland's Foreign Minster Paavo Bayrynen greeted the participants. He emphasized that the multifaceted relations between the USSR and Finland were developing fruitfully on the firm basis of the 1948 Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. An important part in these is played by trade and economic cooperation. Vayrynen expressed his conviction that the seminar would promote an extension in the mutually beneficial contacts between two countries.

Having noted the successful development of bilateral business contacts in the last 5-year period, E. Ollila, finance minister and first deputy chairman of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish commission for economic cooperation, emphasized that the fulfillment of the agreement on goods turnover and payments for 1986-90 envisaged further growth in mutual trade and increasing imports from the Soviet Union, in particular of machinery and equipment.

The participants in the meeting noted that the expansion of trade and economic contacts served the strengthening of Soviet-Finnish relations which were based on trust.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH DENMARK

PM051619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ties Developing"]

[Text] Copenhagen, 2 Fe[illegible] -- The 15th session of the Soviet-Danish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation has been held here.

The commission noted the mostly positive development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries and the existence of favorable prospects for its expansion.

An amplified long-term plan for economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Denmark was approved during the session. It includes specific Soviet-Danish cooperation projects in various sectors of industry and agriculture, and it creates good preconditions for the development of cooperation between the two countries.

In this connection the sides discussed the question of possibly supplementing and expanding the long-term program for the development of economic and industrial cooperation between the USSR and Denmark of 16 June 1978 with the inclusion in it, in particular, of the main provisions of the aforesaid plan, as well as possible additional cooperation projects. A number of contracts were signed for the delivery of various types of equipment to the USSR.

The Soviet delegation was headed by N.N. Smelyakov, chairman of the Soviet side of the commission and USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and the Danish delegation by A. Christiansen, chairman of the Danish side of the commission and chairman of the Danish Committee for Economic and Industrial Cooperation.

SWEDISH PAPER ON CRITICISM OF 'MILITARY CIRCLES'

PM131447 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 12 Feb 86 p 19

[Harald Hamrin dispatch: "Soviet Criticism: Hostile Campaign in Sweden"]

[Text] Moscow -- Yesterday the Soviet Union escalated its criticism of Sweden for the "anti-Soviet campaign" being carried on in the Swedish press and elsewhere. The criticism was directed in particular against "military circles" in Sweden who voiced a "hostile" attitude toward the Soviet Union. The criticism was voiced by Soviet Foreign Ministry deputy press spokesman Vladimir Morozov and took the form of a reply to a question that had been submitted to the Foreign Ministry. This was perhaps -- although this was not stated clearly -- a reply to a question from DAGENS NYHETER's correspondent some 2 weeks ago which at the time received a shorter reply from another Soviet Foreign Ministry official. Morozov began by saying that Swedish-Soviet relations are "on the whole" developing positively and that Soviet policy takes as its point of departure the principles of total respect for Sweden's territorial integrity and mutual respect.

"However, at the same time it is possible to note certain negative aspects in Swedish-Soviet relations," Morozov said, pointing out that "representatives of certain circles" in Sweden are continuing "a campaign hostile to the Soviet Union which slows down the development of stronger relations."

Morozov pointed in particular to "Swedish military circles" as the guilty parties in this "unfriendly" campaign in which, for example, there are assertions that Soviet vessels violate Sweden's territorial integrity and in which "attempts are made to alarm the population with talk of an imaginary Soviet threat."

"It cannot but cause surprise that representatives of the Swedish military leadership also take part in such an anti-Soviet campaign," Morozov said, referring perhaps to certain statements by Defense Staff chief Bror Stefenson. "The military leadership above all ought to be fully aware that Soviet vessels do not violate Sweden's territorial waters."

Morozov's statement, which was delivered from a written version, also said that it was "remarkable" that "the new anti-Soviet campaign, which is supported by right-wing circles and their newspapers " should ge allowed to develop at the very time that it is possible to note "clearly discernible progress as far as an improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and Sweden is concerned." In an allusion to Prime Minister Palme's visit to the Soviet Union at the beginning of April, Morozov said that the Swedish "campaign" is all the more unfortunate since it is taking place at a time when "important visits" are at hand.

SWEDISH VACATIONERS TO HELP HUNT SOVIET SUBMARINES

LD132357 Moscow International Service in Swedish 1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[(Oleg Okulovskiy) commentary]

[Text] Good evening. When I listened to Swedish radio yesterday, I heard with interest that the Navy has seriously decided to take up organizing vacations for the Swedes.

It was stated in the news review that the Navy Staff has prepared 2,000 posters which will be displayed in the coastal areas this spring and summer. These posters give good advice to vacationers on how to find and hunt foreign submarines on Swedish beaches. At the same time the imaginative Navy offers the vacationers an entertainment program: films about mysterious submarines. The Navy show will probably be called: "Catch a Submarine Yourself."

A vacation on the Swedish coast will now contain a great deal more than before. Last year vacationers sat down on the seashore to catch some little fish, whereas now, thanks to the Navy Staff, they have a chance to haul up a submarine. It is true that submarines are not very suitable for fish soup, but the submarines, which, according to SVENSKA DAGBLADET are swarming off the Swedish coast, have a special characteristic. The fish soup from these submarines remains strong as they stay in the water. Therefore they are not fished out from there, as you probably have noticed. The soup itself has a clear anti-Soviet aftertaste. The longer the search for a submarine goes on, the stronger is the soup, and the longer one can imply a Soviet underwater threat.

It is very convenient, everything is under the water, and nothing is being seen. The press is chasing sensations, the military financial allocations. The more submarines that are not caught, the simpler it will be to complain about the shortage of funds. Both for the big press and the military the hunt for mythical submarines is a very serious and profitable affair, and not at all some kind of show, as some may think.

This time everything indicates that both the press and the Navy have decided to prepare a strong fish soup from submarines, and all Swedish vacationers are to take part in its preparation.

ARMS REDUCTION ISSUES DISCUSSED WITH PORTUGAL

PM092025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR-Portugal: Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Lisbon, 7 Feb -- R.S. Ovinnikov, special representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry, visited here on 5-6 February.

He had meetings and talks with Freitas do Amaral, president of the Assembly of the Republic, and with Foreign Minister P. Pires de Miranda, as well as at the Portuguese Foreign Ministry's Political Department on questions of arms reduction and disarmament on the basis of the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of 15 January this year. The meetings and talks took place in a business-like and constructive atmosphere.

V.P. Vdovin, USSR ambassador to Portugal, participated in them.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN CITED ON GULF WAR

Need To End Conflict

JN131530 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A press spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry has affirmed the need to end the Iraq-Iran war and resort to resolving existing problems through negotiations. Sukhin, deputy head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, informed newsmen today of his country's previous stand that this war is exhausting the energies of the two countries and harming their economies. He stressed the need to halt all military operations and to resort to peaceful methods.

Discusses Ties With Iran, Iraq

AU131515 Paris AFP in English 1509 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, Feb 13 (AFP) -- Moscow is ready to develop neighborly relations" with Iran, but would still stand by its 1972 cooperation treaty with Iraq, a Soviet spokesman said today.

Valeriy Sukhin, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, called the Gulf conflict "a bloody and absurd tragedy: and urged an end to the fighting "as quickly as possible". He said Moscow would continue to "fulfill its obligations" under terms of the friendship and cooperation treaty it signed with Iraq.

On other issues, Mr Sukhin denounced what he called Iranian "interference" in internal affairs in Afghanistan, and supported the establishment of diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

Rejects Occupation, Expansion

LD131406 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1324 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow 13 Feb (KUNA) -- The Soviet Union today reaffirmed its "principled and firm" position to the Iraq-Iran war, calling for "a speedy ending to the armed conflict, and for resolving the two countries' problems around the negotiation table."

Valeriy Sukhin, deputy head of of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, told newsmen that the Soviet position "was very well known to the two parties to the war and to all states of the world'"

Answering a question by a KUNA correspondent here on the Kremlin's position in light of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq, in the event of Iran occupying Iraqi territory, Sukhin said: "We do not want to discuss the situation from a hypothetical point of view, but the position of the Soviet Union is firm and principled, and rejects the policy of occupation and expansionism."

Sukhin said that "the treaty of friendship and cooperation offers firm and strong foundations for the strengthening of the relations and cooperation between Moscow and Baghdad in all fields." Sukhin affirmed that the Soviet Union and Iraq "were both still committed to the clauses of the treaty."

OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN RULES OUT TIES WITH ISRAEL

LD132017 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1917 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet Union will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel since the motives which led to them being broken off have not been eliminated. The above was stated by Soviet Foreign Ministry official spokesman Valeriy Sukhin in a talk with newsmen in Moscow today. Setting out the Soviet stand, Sukhin said the Israeli government "had not checked its expansionism and reprisals against Arab neighbours." He termed the U.S. military manoeuvres in the Mediterranean and on South Korean territory "dangerous military games" and stressed that the Soviet Union "decisively condemns the latest U.S. provocation against Libya and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea." Sukhin warned Washington that such and similar U.S. actions were contrary to the interests and results of the U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva.

Replying to a question regarding the forthcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Washington, Sukhin stated that diplomatic preparations for the meeting were underway and that official Moscow had never questioned its taking place. Sukhin reiterated Moscow's stand that "no territorial border problem existed" between Japan and the Soviet Union since the existing borders were an "indisputable historical fact."

IRAN-IRAQ WAR REPORTS REMAIN 'CONTRADICTORY'

LD131854 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Reports coming in from the Iran-Iraq front remain contradictory. Tehran is reporting a combat offensive being waged by the Iranian Army on Iraqi soil. The Iraqi military command states that the Iranian offensive has been halted and has cost heavy losses on the Iranian side. It is still fairly difficult to form an objective, realistic picture of events taking place at the front.

Perhaps the only thing one can say is this: As a result of the Iranian general offensive, which was several months in the preparation and for which a substantial number of troops of the Iranian army were assembled, Iran has succeeded in advancing a little from its previously held positions. However, there is no evidence that the main objective of this offensive has been achieved or that Iraq has been dealt a blow that will determine the outcome of the war. The latest upsurge in military operations on the Iran-Iraq front has caused great anxiety among the countries of the region. A group of Arab states has demanded that the Security Council be urgently convened in connection with the events taking place.

PROTOCOL SIGNED FOLLOWING TALKS WITH KUWAIT

PM140957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Feb 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Questions Discussed"]

[Text] Soviet-Kuwaiti talks on questions of developing economic, trade, financial, scientific, and technical cooperation ended 11 February. During the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, note was made of the existence of favorable opportunities for the further development and deepening of bilateral cooperation in view of the high level of the two countries' economic potential, and the desire to expand Soviet-Kuwaiti cooperation in diverse spheres was expressed. A protocol was signed on the results of the talks. It was signed for the Soviet side by K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and for the Kuwaiti side by 'Ali al-khalifah al-Sabah.

ZAMYATIN DISCUSSES MIDEAST PROBLEMS IN INTERVIEW

NC120835 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 11 Feb 86 pp 1, 12

["Text" of interview with Leonid Zamyatin, chief of the International Information Department of the Central Committee of the CPSU, by Paris correspondent Muna al-Sa'id -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Al-Sa'id] The U.S.-Soviet summit in Geneva provided the opportunity for a number of interpretations with regard to the Middle East. May we know, first, what the outcome of the talks on this issue was and, second, what the current possibilities are for holding an international conference on the Middle East?

[Zamyatin] The Middle East problem was discussed in Geneva within the context of regional conflicts. The two parties declared their concern about the existence of "flashpoints" in the world. However, as Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out, our views on the causes of these conflicts and on how to deal with and solve them are directly opposed. At the same time, the Soviet and U.S. leaders recognized the need to hold regular political consultations on these issues.

Regarding the second part of your question, on the possibilities of holding an international conference on the Middle East, it is still our objective opinion that there is no obstacle to the holding of this international conference. This firm Soviet conviction was made clear in 1977 in the joint Soviet-U.S. communique on the Middle East, but the United States regrettably abandoned this position later. The Soviet proposals presented in July 1984 were very detailed, so much so that 1 week would have been enough to organize such a conference. But the United States and Israel are doing everything they can to torpedo it.

The U.S. Administration's behavior in regard to the Middle East continues to be far removed from the "spirit of Geneva." Washington persists in practicing a short-sighted policy that is hostile to the interests of the Arab people in general and the Palestinian people in particular. Is it reasonable to exclude the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, or to ignore the the question of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Palestinian territories, and to be content with merely offering a limited "administrative autonomy" to the Palestinians?

The fact is that the Americans can no longer overlook the wide support in the world and at the United Nations for an international conference on the Middle East. Thus, they are now talking about calling for "an international conference on the Middle East," but the conference's scope will be limited to endorsing a separate deal between Israel on one hand and certain Arab countries on the other. Since this idea is not initially easy to "market," they are only whispering about it. This U.S. version is completely contradictory to what the Soviet Union is proposing.

We have made every effort to formulate the aims and principles of a true international conference for a fundamental settlement in the Middle East. In my opinion, the United States must be approached and asked to set a date for such a conference. As for us, we are quite ready to attend tomorrow.

[Al-Saiid] There has been a great deal of talk in Western media about the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and Israel and about the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. Conflicting statements on these issues have been made by a number of Israeli leaders. Where does the Soviet Union really stand?

[Zamyatin] This is not the first time I have been asked this question, despite the fact that our position has not changed. Rumours of this kind are intended to upset Soviet-Arab relations and give rise to doubts about Soviet policy. This is nothing new in Western and Israeli media. What we rather find difficult to understand is why some Arab papers, which purport to be serious and objective, disseminate such allegations.

Emigration from the Soviet Union, by Jews or any other citizens, is governed by Soviet legislation and by the UN international treaty signed in 1966. Like any other country, we impose restrictions on emigration. These restrictions have nothing to do with the religious beliefs of the applicants. The categories prevented from emigrating include those who have only recently completed their military service, those who are in possession of state secrets, those whose departure could adversely affect the rights of other citizens or of other members of their families, and those who are wanted in connection with criminal cases.

It has been noticed lately that the number of applications for emigration has declined, as has the actual number of those leaving. In 1984 and 1985, only 800 Soviet Jews left the country. The claim that an "exodus" of Soviet Jews is in the offing is an outright lie and an attempt to discredit Soviet Jews. Soviet Jews feel at home in their country. They do not wish to leave the Soviet Union.

Now, let us return to the issue of restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. There are reasons why these relations were severed. Some people would like these reasons to fade away into oblivion. I would like to recall that the Soviet Union took this measure after Israel launched its attack against Arab countries. The Israeli aggression has not yet ended. The Soviet Union has no reason for the moment to reconsider its position.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the Soviet stand on the recent develcpments in Lebanon and on the future of the tripartite agreement? How do you view the current situation in Lebanon and the future of this country?

[Zamyatin] The Lebanese tragedy which has been going on for well over 10 years illustrates what can happen to a sovereign state when it is arbitrarily drawn into the orbit of the vital interests of the United States and its allies. The partners in the U.S.-Israeli alliance continue to unscrupulously interfere in Lebanon's affairs. These partners bear the prime responsibility for the destruction, bloodshed, and pain that has afflicted the Lebanese and Palestinians alike. It is an established fact that Israel is still occupying a part of Lebanese territory and is still obstructing attempts to achieve national reconciliation in that country.

It is true to say that Lebanon is experiencing several serious internal contradictions, but we must discover the roots of these contradictions and whether they are the result of the colonialist period or of the new colonialist policy currently applied by the imperialist forces.

Naturally, our attitude toward the Lebanese problem encompasses all aspects of the situation. Lebanon must remain an independent united country within the Arab world. Starting from this premise, we take into consideration the issue of understanding between the religious groups and political parties. The Soviet Union sincerely supports the nationalist forces, which are concerned with the fate of the country and which are currently demonstrating a high degree of responsibility in their efforts to overcome the serious internal contradictions and to attain a national consensus. Therefore, if the situation is to be normalized, it is imperative that there be an immediate and total end to the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory, the violation of Lebanese skies, and foreign interference in the constructive dialogue among the Lebanese. Lebanon must remain free and unified.

[Al-Sa'id] What is the Soviet view of the situation in South Yemen?

[Zamyatin] The conflict which erupted in that country is purely internal and must be resolved as such without any foreign interference. However, we must express our regret for the tragic events there, particularly since they concern a friendly country with whom we have longstanding links of strong friendship. The people of the PDRY, [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen], under the YSP, [Yemen Socialist Party], have recently succeeded in making important advances in terms of national independence, national development, and the birth of a planned economy, as well as in terms of major social issues. However, the progress of the country along the Socialist path chosen by the Yemeni people is still encountering difficulties inherited from the colonialist era, such as the multi-structured economy and the tribal division of society.

Finally, we must not underestimate the effects of the hostile behavior of foreign reactionary and imperialist forces and their agents, who have endeavored to sabotage the progressive regime and weaken the leading role of the YSP and its relationship with the masses.

This was demonstrated by the recent events. On 24 January, the extradordinary meeting of the YSP Central Committee authorized the Politburo to take the necessary measures to stabilize the situation in the country. There is no doubt that the Yemeni people have the experience of vigorous struggle against colonialism and know how to resolve their complicated internal problems. We hope they will find the resources to restore order and defend the county's sovereignty against those who seek to benefit from their current difficulties.

BRIEFS

SYRIAN CP HEAD AWARDED -- By USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree, Comrade Yusuf Faysal, deputy secretary general of the Syrian Communist Party Central Committee has been awarded the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples for services in the struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress, for his contribution to strengthening friendship between the Soviet Union and Syria, and in connection with his 60th birthday. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 6 Feb 86 LD]

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR

LD131239 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, today received Isa Modibbo, the ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the USSR, at the latter's request. During the course of a friendly conversation, questions of bilateral relations, as well as certain topical international problems, including the situation on the African continent, were discussed. Comrade Shevardnadze drew the ambassador's attention to the latest Soviet foreign-policy initiatives, which were advanced in the 15 January statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During a discussion of the situation in Africa, it was stated from the Soviet side that the Soviet Union is resolutely and consistently in favor of the African peoples independently determining ways to their own development, and of Africa becoming a continent of peace, free of foreign military bases and nuclear weapons, and is against attempts by imperialism to turn that continent into an arena of military-political confrontation and internecine warfare.

WINNIE MANDELA SENDS 'MILITANT SALUTE' TO USSR

LD140247 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1120 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Aleksandr Osipov report]

[Text] Harare 13 Feb (TASS) -- "I have waited for long years personally to send my militant salute to the Land of the Soviets, to thank it for its fraternal solidarity." This is the way in which Winnie Mandela, one of the most prominent figures of the anti-racist movement in South Africa, the wife of the leader of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, began our telephone conversation from Johannesburg.

I want immediately, before the police secret agents cut us off, to express my accumulated thoughts and feelings, she stated. The Soviet Union is a torchbearer for all our hopes and aspirations. We have learned and are continuing to learn resilience and bravery from Soviet people, who are an example to us in our struggle for freedom, a model of loyalty to internationalist duty. In Soviet Russia genuine power of the people has been transformed from dreams into reality. The Land of the Soviets is the genuine friend and ally of all oppressed peoples fighting against the dark forces of world reaction.

South Africa patriots warmly welcome and support the peaceful proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev. These initiatives open up a straight path to the establishment of universal peace and security and the creation of conditions for the elimination of the dangerous seat of international tension in southern Africa, which takes the form of colonialism and racism. We are trying to attain this together with the USSR and all progressive mankind. Our struggle for freedom is indissolubly linked with the worldwide peace movement for which your great country is a standard bearer. Along with all the other peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples, we are leading the advance on the most heinous enemy of peace, imperialism, a policy which in our region is carried out by the criminal apartheid regime. Our just struggle has a humane aim -- the creation of a peace-loving, democratic state which would stand in the same rank along with all the forces of progress. Support by the Soviet people is of particularly important significance, inspiring us and giving us new strength.

I would like to stress that Nelson Mandela, in spite of long years of incarceration is, as before, full of vital strength and energy and will to defend the cause of the people to the victorious end, says W. Mandela, telling of her recent meeting with her husband in Cape Town prison. With him, we are all confident of the forthcoming collapse of the hateful apartheid regime and the establishment of a democratic state.

Absurd and risible are the plans put forward by the authorities to free my husband for so-called "humanitarian" considerations, linking this with conditions which it already knows to be unacceptable. Judging by everything, this sort of maneuver is suggested to Pretoria from outside, and the enslaved masses of our country reject them with indignation. N. Mandela is the national pride of the people of South Africa, a symbol of our heroic resistance. A prisoner of racism, he is an awe-inspiring accuser of the apartheid system and the irrefutable national leader.

The racist minority does not want to abandon its status as masters in our society and blindly continues its criminal practice of racial oppression. Our country has for a long time been under effective martial law. Militarist circles have essentially taken power and unleashed a veritable war against the working masses. They are carrying out bloody reprisals against the opponents of apartheid.

In these circumstances, the freedom fighters under the leadership of the ANC are closing ranks. They have no option but to respond to force with revolutionary force. But the responsibility for the situation which has come about lies squarely with the oppressors. I wish to lay special stress on the fact that the people are united in their desire to bring an end to the despised system of apartheid. We do not count, of course, the handful of appeasers, Africans who cooperate with the authorities, having betrayed the interests of their people and the cause of freedom.

Executioners commonly start talking about "humanitarianism" when they sense that scores are soon to be settled. That is precisely what the ringleaders of the regime are up to now. In order to divert people's attention they pontificate about "reforming" apartheid, without actually wishing to alter anything essential. The concept of so-called "improvement" is incompatible with the nature of apartheid, which has much in common with Nazism. Racism, like fascism, needs eradicating in the interests of all mankind.

One can only marvel at the courage of this patriot who showed no fear of the revenge the racists could mete out for talking to a Soviet journalist. Don't pay any attention to them and try and speak faster, was W. Mandela's calm advice when our conversation resumed after the line had been "disconnected" yet another time. "We are carrying out instructions from above," replied the switchboard operator in Johannesburg to the TASS correspondents protest.

BOGDIYEV VIEWS PRELUDE TO NEW CHAD INTERVENTION

LD132012 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS -- By TASS commentator Boris Bogdiyev.

Speaking in Libreville, Guy Penne, African affairs advisor to the French president, announced that Paris planned to scale up arms and military equipment supplies to the regime of Hissene Habre in N 'djamena.

The pretext used by Paris for a fresh attempt to intervene in the affairs of Chad is combat operations that resumed in the north of that country in recent days where troops of the Transitional Government of National Unity (TGNU) launched an offensive on the forces of the N'djamena regime. Resorting to a habitual propaganda ploy, Guy Penne and, after him, the N'djamena authorities, were quick in putting the blame for the worsening of the situation in Chad on Libya. It is common knowledge, though, that Washington and Paris resorted to such stories more than once in order to justify their intervention in what is a purely domestic crisis in that central African country.

However, there are no grounds at all for accusing Libya of involvement in that conflict. Pressmen, including French journalists who recently visited the TGNU-controlled areas admitted that they saw no Libyan troops there. The Libyan was news agency JANA categorically dismissed these accusations as groundless. Libya, JANA emphasized, will continue to honor its commitments strictly and will not [words indistinct] in the Chad conflict.

Paris, as the events demonstrate, is stubbornly trying to influence the developments in Chad so that they might suit its interests. France, as its External Affairs Minister Roland Dumas said, is closely watching the situation in Chad and is in consultation on that matter with Hissene Habre and the governments of "certain African nations." The [words indistinct] point is primarily the Central African Republic where a large contingent of French troops, permanently aimed at Chad, is stationed.

In case there is a threat to the N'djamena regime these forces are ready to come to its rescue. It is not happenenstance that [AGENCE] FRANCE PRESSE news agency recalls the notorious operation "mante", that is, the direct French intervention in Chad which began August 10, 1983. At that time Habre's forces were bolstered with more than three thousand French officers and men as well as large amounts of modern military equipment.

Guy Penne's statement confirms that France adheres to its policy of preserving control over its former colony at any cost. Chad attracts the West both with its natural resources and its strategic location. NATO's top decision-makers, including the United States, and also the French military-industrial complex insist that the policy of intervention in central Africa be continued. It is appropriate to recall that precisely one-year ago the influential "fonds de l'avenir" which expresses the interests of mentioned quarters set forth its "recipes" of French policy in Africa.

The main one of them is "not to fear to use military strength", to make military actions in Africa more "decisive, offensive and even riskly."

Heeding the views of those who would like to see France becoming "Africa's gendarme", Paris disregards the interests of the people of Chad and of independent African nations. Attempts to internationalize the conflict are at a basic variances with the 1979 Laos agreements on Chad which emphasized that the problem of that country could be resolved only on the condition of respect for independence and territorial integrity of Chad and non-intervention in its internal affairs from outside.

NICARAGUA'S RUIZ, ARISTOV DISCUSS TRADE TIES

LD112206 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1808 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb (TASS) -- The state and prospects of the development of the trade and economic ties between the Soviet Union and Nicaragua were discussed at talks that were held here today between USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov, and Henry Ruiz, minister of foreign economic cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua.

Henry Ruiz said in a conversation with a TASS correspondent that trade between our countries is growing at a rapid pace. It is sufficient to say that in 1985 it increased by 75 percent compared with the previous year. We are convinced, declared the Nicaraguan minister, that it will be possible to maintain in the future the high rate at which our trade and economic cooperation have already developed.

During his visit to the USSR, which concludes today, Henry Ruiz also met the heads of a number of other Soviet departments.

KAZIMIROV IN COSTA RICA; COMMENTS ON NICARAGUA

PA112247 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0233 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] San Jose, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, a delegation from the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry met here Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez.

The Soviet delegation is visiting several Latin American nations, and is headed by Vladimir Kazimirov, chief of the First Latin American Countries Department, and Vadim Chekmazov, deputy chief of the Second Latin American Countries Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The delegation has the mission of explaining the proposals of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on a moratorium on nuclear tests and the total elimination of that kind of weapon within 15 years. After visiting Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, the delegation travelled to Mexico today.

Kazimirov, who was the first Soviet ambassador to Costa Rica when the two nations established diplomatic relations in 1971, said that the proposal for the elimination of nuclear tests in the year 2000 is basically directed to the United States; however, it should be of interest to all mankind. The Soviet diplomat criticized the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, known as "star wars," because he believes that it entails "serious risks for mankind."

During a press conference, he commented that if war is taken into space, any error could have very serious repercussions for mankind. He added that "mankind cannot become the hostage of computers."

Moreover, Kazimirov said that the USSR "is resolutely" in favor of a "fair" political settlement of the Central American crisis, and insisted that Nicaragua is a country under attack by the United States, which "finances, organizes, and directs the counterrevolution."

Likewise, Kazimirov defended Soviet aid to Nicaragua, and said that it will be maintained as long as Nicaragua's right to undertake "an independent path, which allows its economic and cultural recovery, and the achievement of social progress to which it is entitled," is violated.

'PRESSURE' ON NEW HONDURAN PRESIDENT CITED

PM041635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[N. Ognev report: "FaithHopes"]

[Text] Mexico, 2 Feb -- The new Honduran President, Jose Simon Ascona Oyo, who won the elections on 24 November last year, has been sworn in. He replaces a representative of the same Liberal Party, Roberto Suazo Cordova. This is the first case in the last 50 years of a transfer of power by civilian presidents in Honduras, which is distinguished by political instability.

Ascona Oyo's predecessor as head of state was called the "president with plenary powers, but without real power." He ceded the reins of government to the military, content with exclusively representative functions, disregarding national development, and consigning the people's social interests to oblivion. Approximately 40 percent of Hondurans are unemployed and 40 percent can neither read nor write. "Occupied Honduras," on whose territory several Pentagon military bases are located, where more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers are permanently quartered and up to 10,000 hirelings from the armed formations of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, has become an instrument for implementing the U.S. aggressive, interventionist course in Central America.

In the period preceding his taking office, the new Honduran president rather vaguely promised to assist the activity of the Contadora Group, spoke of the necessity to limit the U.S. presence in Honduras, and stated his intention of normalizing relations with Nicaragua and even throwing the counterrevolutionary Somoza bands out of the country.

However, as the Mexican journal PROCESO wrote, Ascona Oyo's claims to even the semblance of an independent political course for Honduras have been nipped in the bud. Under pressure from Washington, even before taking office, he was compelled to agree to forming a so-called "nationalist alliance" and to share power with the military, which cooperates with the Pentagon, and with a pro-U.S. national party.